FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

12 MARCH 1987

Israel

At the end of a lengthy meeting the Inner Cabinet announced its decision to establish a two-member "probing committee" into the Pollard affair. The Inner Cabinet communique, broadcast by Jerusalem radio, explained that this decision was made because of the "special significance" of the case and noted that the investigators will submit their findings to the cabinet plenum. The cabinet will also assist the subcommittee of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee in its inquiries into the Pollard affair, the communique added.

Regarding the authority of the Inner Cabinet's probing committee, Jerusalem radio noted that it does not have the enforcement powers of an inquiry commission as it cannot subpoena witnesses and its recommendations will not be legally binding. While the radio said the committee would comprise former Chief of Staff Tzvi Tzur and former Supreme Court President Moshe Landau, IDF radio subsequently disclosed that Landau is unwilling to serve and that efforts are underway to find a replacement. As for the political background to the cabinet decision, Jerusalem television said the establishment of the committee "surprised many people" in light of Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's recent statements opposing an official investigation and viewing the Pollard affair as "closed." However, Shamir realized that it would be impossible to avoid a real investigation when he became aware of the "full import of U.S. criticism of Israel" and the "very real" dangers to Israel's position in the United States, the television said.

Lebanon

Clash in South — An IDF officer was killed and another Israeli soldier was injured in a 12 March clash with a "terrorist gang" north of Bint Jubayl, the IDF spokesman announced in a statement reported by IDF radio. Beirut radio said the officer was killed in an ambush by "national resistance fighters."

AUB Arrests — Syrian Brigadier General Ghazi Kan'an explained Syrian measures at the American University of Beirut (AUB) in a statement reported by Beirut radio, asserting that Syrian forces detained and interrogated "certain suspect individuals" who had tried to "conceal themselves among the students in order to create security rifts." While the Syrians are "anxious to safeguard the freedom of political action in all forms," they will deal strictly with any security violations at the AUB and have taken measures that will guarantee its security, he added. In a related report, AFP said the Syrians were still detaining 3 of 15 arrested AUB students. A death threat to "butcher" Kan'an was issued by an organization calling itself the "Lebanese Liberation Front," according to the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon.

Hostage Threat — The Revolutionary Justice Organization threatened to execute a French hostage if the French prime minister fails to clarify President Francois Mitterrand's statements on hostages and military aid to Iraq, AFP reported 12 March.

Egypt

Threats to Israelis — The secret organization "Egyptian Revolution" has threatened to kill any Israelis participating in the Cairo international fair due to open 14 March, Voice of Lebanon radio reported citing a 12 March *Al-Wafd* report. The paper added that the Israeli envoy to Cairo has also received threats.

Rioters Released — The Supreme Security Court has decided to release 203 Central Security Force conscripts arrested in February 1986 for disturbances and mutiny, QNA announced.

Algeria-Saudi Arabia

Saudi Arabia's King Fahd was greeted by Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid upon arrival in Algiers 11 March, Riyadh radio stated. In a statement reported by SPA, King Fahd praised the friendship ties between the countries and affirmed that efforts to expand them will be made.

Libya

Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi received Lazar Mojsov, vice president of the SFRY Presidency, for a "lengthy" exchange of views 11 March, TANJUG reported.

On 10 March, Major al-Khuwaylidi al-Humaydi led a delegation to Tunis for talks on joint cooperation, Tripoli radio disclosed.

Iran

A Soviet Foreign Ministry delegation headed by Lev Isaakovich Mendelevich arrived in Tehran for talks 11 March, IRNA noted.

Pakistani-Afghan Talks

Differences between Kabul and Karachi over the timetable for Soviet troop withdrawal from the DRA were not solved at the recent Geneva talks, according to a Pakistani Foreign Office spokesman cited by Karachi radio. The talks did, however, reinforce Pakistan's optimism about a political settlement on Afghanistan.

FBIS DAILY REPORT
CONTENTS

Middle East & Africa

Vol V No 048 *12 March 1987*

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

Palestinian-Soviet Talks Held in Algiers *[Sanaa VOP]* ..... A 1
'Arafat Sends 'Urgent' Cable to Perez de Cuellar *[Sanaa VOP]* ..... A 1
PNSF Reportedly Seeks Syrian Entry Into Suburb *[Voice of the Mountain]* ..... A 1
Dubayy AL-BAYAN on Arab Summit, PNC Session *[Dubayy AL-BAYAN 10 Mar]* ..... A 1

ARABIAN PENINSULA

BAHRAIN

Amir Receives U.S. Admiral Crowe 11 March ..... C 1
Prime Minister Receives Egyptian State Minister *[QNA]* ..... C 1

KUWAIT

Latin America Warned on Unilateral Debt Action ..... C 1

SAUDI ARABIA

Fahd on OPEC, Arab Summit, Mideast Conference ..... C 2
Government 'No Longer Interested' in German Arms *[DPA]* ..... C 3

UAE

President Receives Iranian Oil Minister *[WAKH]* ..... C 3
Oil Minister Departs *[WAKH]* ..... C 3

YAR

French Parliamentary Delegation Departs 11 March ..... C 3
Cabinet Discusses Economic Issues, Hears Reports ..... C 3

EGYPT

Military Source Denies Pier Assigned to U.S. *[Doha QNA]* ..... D 1
Organization Threatens To Kill Israelis in Cairo *[AL-WAFD 12 Mar]* ..... D 1
'Hardliner' Al-Baz Absent From Talks With Peres *[AL-WAFD 5 Mar]* ..... D 1
Ugandan President Begins 2-Day Official Visit ..... D 1
Court Releases 203 Involved in 1986 Police Riots *[Doha QNA]* ..... D 1
AL-AHALI Views Recent Sectarian Violence *[4 Mar]* ..... D 1
Socialist Labor Party Leader Discusses Elections *[UKTUBAR 1 Mar]* ..... D 2
AL-JUMHURIYAH Hits Communist Al-Sadat Critique *[7 Mar]* ..... D 3

IRAQ

Communique No 2,600 Details 10-11 March Combat ..... E 1
Revolutionary Hojjat ol-Eslam Hakim Interviewed *[Vienna PROFIL 9 Mar]* ..... E 1

JORDAN

Husayn Presides Over Administrative Committee ..... F 1

Territories Ministry Official Meets UNESCO Envoy ..... F 1
Qatanani Meets West Bank Mayor, Charity Director ..... F 1
Dudin Cites Support for Gaza Port Construction *[Monte Carlo]* ..... F 1

LEBANON

Group Threatens To Execute French Hostage *[AFP]* ..... G 1
Junblatt Interviewed on Developments, Waite *[Paris LE MATIN 9 Mar]* ..... G 1
Kan'an Warns Troops After West Beirut Explosions *[AFP]* ..... G 2
Kan'an Issues Statement on University Incident ..... G 2
Remaining 3 Students Released *[VOL]* ..... G 3
Kan'an 'Sentenced' to Death by Liberation Front *[RFL]* ..... G 3
AL-SAFIR on Ja'ja' Fate, Syrian Plan ..... G 3
Ja'ja' on Economic Plan, Greater Beirut Security *[RFL]* ..... G 3
Islamic Grouping Urges Syrian Summit 'Soon' ..... G 3
1 Palestinian Killed, 2 Wounded Near Shatila *[RFL]* ..... G 4
Resistance Kills Israeli Soldier, Wounds Three ..... G 4
Soviet Ambassador Receives Message From Sfayr *[VOL]* ..... G 4

SYRIA

SDAR President Confers With Foreign Minister ..... H 1
Meets With Al-Asad ..... H 1
Holds Talks With Talas ..... H 1
Oil Minister Returns From Visit to USSR ..... H 1
Al-Na'ib Meets Arab League's Ibrahimi 11 March ..... H 1
Foreign Ministry Resumes Contacts on Golan ..... H 1

ISRAEL

Continuing Reportage on Reaction to Pollard Case ..... I 1
Inner Cabinet Issues Communique ..... I 1
Background of Committee Viewed ..... I 1
Committee Members Named ..... I 1
Landau Rejects Appointment ..... I 1
Attorney To Head Committee ..... I 2
Eban Pleased With Probes ..... I 2
Beilin on Bilateral Ties ..... I 2
Opposition Not To Attend Forum ..... I 3
IDF 'Not Involved' ..... I 3
Levi Supports Promotion ..... I 3
Subcommittee Meeting Ends ..... I 3
MA'ARIV Sees 'Cover-Up' *[11 Mar]* ..... I 3
Press Views Inquiry ..... I 4
Kahana Says Government To Release Prisoners *[Beirut]* ..... I 5
Avraham Tamir Holds Talks With Maltese Leaders ..... I 5
Apparent Hizballah-Amal Raid on SLA Foiled ..... I 5
IDF Squad, 'Terrorists' Clash; Officer Dead ..... I 5

INTER-AFRICAN AFFAIRS

OAU Minisummit Concludes; Statement Issued ..... P 1
Libyan Front Message *[MENA]* ..... P 1
Closed Session Ends *[MENA]* ..... P 1
OAU Chairman Meets Press *[MENA]* ..... P 1
Meeting Issues Final Statement *[MENA]* ..... P 2
Delegations to OAU Minisummit Depart From Cairo ..... P 4
Djibouti President *[MENA]* ..... P 4
Zambian, Congolese Leaders *[MENA]* ..... P 4
Algerian Delegation *[MENA]* ..... P 4
Sierra Leonean President *[MENA]* ..... P 4

Central, East African Summit Postponed to June *[SUNA]* ..... P 4

NORTH AFRICA

ALGERIA

President Bendjedid Welcomes Saudi King Fahd *[Riyadh]* ..... Q 1
Fahd Praises Relations *[SPA]* ..... Q 1

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives SFRY's Mojsov, Delegation ..... Q 1
Delegation Ends Visit, Departs ..... Q 1
Al-Asad Thanks Al-Qadhdhafi for Congratulations ..... Q 1

SUDAN

Official on Mediation Between Libya, Chad ..... Q 1
SPLA-SPLM Member Denounces Southern Council *[Radio SPLA]* ..... Q 2

TUNISIA

Tripoli Reports Al-Humaydi Arrival, Talks ..... Q 2
Reportedly To Meet Bourguiba *[KUNA]* ..... Q 3

WESTERN SAHARA

Information Ministry Issues Communique on Clashes *[Algiers]* ..... Q 3

CENTRAL AFRICA

CAMEROON

President Biya Plans Visit to PRC 25-31 March ..... S 1

CHAD

Government Warns Against Libyan 'Traps' ..... S 1
Radio Views Libyan Setbacks, FANT Determination ..... S 1

WEST AFRICA

BENIN

Soviet Official Stops Over, Discusses Cooperation ..... T 1

CAPE VERDE

Diplomatic Ties Established With Seychelles *[AFP]* ..... T 1

GAMBIA

Jawara, PPP Win 'Sweeping Victory' in Elections *[AFP]* ..... T 1

GHANA

Official Meets With Iranian Delegation *[IRNA]* ..... T 1
SFRY Ambassador Explores Areas of Cooperation ..... T 1
Comment on Liberia's Economic, Political Crisis ..... T 2
Goals of Radio Ghana External Service Explained ..... T 2

NIGER

Kountche Receive's France Aurillac 11 March ..... T 3

NIGERIA

Authorities Make Efforts To Curb Unrest ..... T 3
Curfew in Kaduna State ..... T 3
Kaduna Leaders Appeal for Calm ..... T 3
51 Arrested in Kaduna ..... T 4
Preaching Restricted in Benue ..... T 4
Restrictions Also in Plateau ..... T 4
Borno Bans 'Open-Air' Preaching ..... T 4
Government Proposes Lagos Conference on Chad *[SUNA]* ..... T 4
Petroleum Minister Cited on OPEC, Oil Situation ..... T 4
Commentaries on UK Visa Office Problem ..... T 5
Antisubmarine Exercises Held With Brazil ..... T 5
Microwave Link Connecting With Niger Completed ..... T 5
Cerebrospinal Meningitis Kills 125 in Sokoto ..... T 5

SOUTHERN AFRICA

ANGOLA

Dos Santos: RSA Enjoying 'Complicity' With West ..... U 1
300 Former FNLA Members Seek Clemency in Uige *[PANA]* ..... U 1

MOZAMBIQUE

Government Forces Reportedly Occupy Luabo *[AFP]* ..... U 1
Prime Minister Machungo Meets USSR's Koshelev ..... U 1
Economic Accord Signed ..... U 1
GDR'S Kleiber Continues Meetings With Officials ..... U 1
DPRK Communications Delegation Arrives on Visit ..... U 2
Chissano Receives Visiting Nigerian Minister ..... U 2

NAMIBIA

Ovambo Leader Agrees to Ethnic Elections *[SAPA]* ..... U 2

SOUTH AFRICA

Commentary Notes U.S. Military Visit to Botswana ..... U 3
Mozambique, USSR Given Machel Inquiry Report ..... U 3
Buthelezi Says Blacks Losing Jobs 'in Droves' ..... U 3
Township Residents Reject Government Removal Plan ..... U 4
Pik Botha Asks United Front in 6 May Elections ..... U 4
Information Bureau Issues 11 March Unrest Report ..... U 5
Press Comments on Current Issues, Problems ..... U 5

SWAZILAND

2 ANC Members Sentenced for Weapons Possession *[Umtata]* ..... U 6

ZAMBIA

DPRK Offers Security, Medical Assistance ..... U 6

ZIMBABWE

Ian Smith Defends Advice to RSA on Sanctions *[SAPA]* ..... U 7
Polish Party Group Meets ZANU-PF Officials ..... U 7

Palestinian-Soviet Talks Held in Algiers

JN111733 Sanaa Voice of Palestinine in Arabic 1600 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], PLO Executive Committee chairman and commander in chief of the Palestinian Revolution Forces, presided over a session of Palestinian-Soviet talks held in [words indistinct] Algiers last night. The meeting was attended on the Soviet side by Mikhail Sytenko, Soviet ambassador on special assignment.

WAFA said the two sides made a comprehensive review during the meeting of the latest developments in both the Arab and international arenas, particularly the Palestine question and the efforts being exerted to hold an international peace conference on the Middle East.

Brother Abu 'Ammar asked the Soviet envoy to convey an important message to Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev focusing on the situation in the region, the continuous aggression and siege against the Palestinian camps in Lebanon, and the need to put an end to this tragedy and suffering which has been continuing for more than 5 months.

WAFA said during the talks [words indistinct] Abu 'Ammar, the Soviet envoy affirmed his country's support and backing for the Palestinian people's legitimate struggle under the PLO for the sake of repatriation, self-determination, and the establishment of an independent Palestinian state.

For his part, Brother Abu 'Ammar expressed satisfaction with the USSR's principled and constant stands. They agreed to continue consultations on all issues of common interest.

'Arafat Sends 'Urgent' Cable to Perez de Cuellar

JN111911 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar has called on UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar to intervene immediately to put an end to the present situation of the Palestinian camps in Lebanon. In an urgent cable sent today to Perez de Cuellar, Brother Abu 'Ammar described the situation in the camps as dangerous.

PNSF Reportedly Seeks Syrian Entry Into Suburb

NC111812 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1730 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] AFP has quoted a source it termed very close to the PNSF as saying that the entry of Syrian forces into West Beirut's southern suburb is the only way to end the camps war. The source added that PNSF leaders will raise this issue with Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam during a meeting they are to have with him in the next few days.

PNSF Spokesman Khalid 'Abd al-Majid has said the Front will inform Khaddam of its willingness to maintain security in the Beirut camps and end all military actions there.

Alluding to pro-'Arafat groups, 'Abd al-Majid said: If some people accept being a tool of those who try to provoke disruptions for the sake of foiling the Syrian plan, they will be confronted by a popular base primarily concerned with its own security.

Dubayy AL-BAYAN on Arab Summit, PNC Session

JN112131 Dubayy AL-BAYAN in Arabic 10 Mar 87 pp 1, 15

["Exclusive" report]

[Text] High-level Arab diplomatic sources have said an agreement was reached to hold the long-awaited Arab summit on a date not exceeding next September. The sources added this agreement was reached during the five-member Arab summit by the leaders of Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Algeria, and Syria. The sources stressed Saudi Arabia is enthusiastic about holding a summit and is pressing for its success to end the state of Arab disarray which caused Arabs to lose much of their impact in international forums, adding Syria has pledged to attend the summit.

Meanwhile, informed Palestinian sources have said that the inter-Palestinian reconciliations which will pave the way for a PNC session are not isolated from the plan to hold an Arab summit but are aimed at facilitating its convocation by emphasizing the legitimacy of the Palestinian leadership's representation at the summit and by remvoing some Arab sides' reservations over its participation.

Regarding the internal Palestinian situation, sources, which *Al-Bayan* contacted by telephone, said the Palestinian revolution's main factions began internal reconciliation first among Fatah Central Committee members themselves to reorganize the Fatah Movement's internal situation, and second between Fatah and the PLO leadership on the one hand and other influential Palestinian factions on the other.

Within the first framework, PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat met in Tunis recently with Fatah Central Committee member Khalid al-Hasan, who has boycotted Palestinian leadership meetings and has stayed in Kuwait since last summer. 'Arafat also met with Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf, known as Abu Iyad, in Tunis and this was the first meeting between the two for several months. Palestinian sources said these meetings thawed the ice which dominated Fatah leaders' relations and an agreement was reached to hold a Fatah Central Committee meeting on 23 March to be attended by Khalid al-Hasan.

Within the second framework, namely, reconciling the PLO leadership with other factions, it was finally agreed to embark on an official dialogue among the factions in Algeirs on 2 April and to convene the PNC in Algiers on 15 April after Algeria agreed to host the PNC regardless of the number of attending Palestinian factions. Palestinian sources said it is now certain that the DFLP, the Palestinian Communist Party [PCP], the ALF, and the Palestine Liberation Front [PLF] of Abu al-'Abbas [Muhammad 'Abbas] will participate and that George Habash's PFLP is very likely to take part.

The preliminary dialogue among the Palestinian factions was resumed in Tunis yesterday. It was attended by Salah Khalaf and Mahmud 'Abbas, known as Abu Mazin, for the Fatah leadership; Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh for the DFLP; and Sulayman Najjab for the PCP, in addition to ALF and PLF representatives. Meanwhile, Khalil al-Wazir, known as Abu Jihad, left for Algiers to meet with PFLP leader George Habash.

Al-Bayan has learned that the five Palestinian factions conferring in Tunis, including the Fatah Movement, have agreed to cancel the Jordanian-Palestinian Amman agreement to overcome the main obstacle of the PFLP's participation in the PNC, as the PFLP insists on canceling the agreement before embarking on official dialogue.

Palestinian sources told *Al-Bayan* the current talks are aimed at striking a deal guaranteeing the abrogation of the Amman agreement and ensuring the PFLP's partcipation in the PNC, as Fatah fears the PFLP will refrain from participating after the abrogation of the agreement. Within this framework, discussions are being held to reach a formula for a pledge before Algeria or a document among the factions by which the Fatah Movement cancels the Amman agreement and according to which the PFLP pledges to attend the anticipated unitary PNC.

The sources added that the improvement of Palestinian-Libyan relations and Algeria's feeling of some dissatisfaction over the failure of reconciliation between the Palestinian and Syrian leaderships have helped make the Damascus-based Palestinian factions agree to convene the PNC. The sources explained that all eight Palestinian factions recognized by the PLO, in addition to independent members, are invited to participate in the PNC. This means the Fatah dissident group of Colonel Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha] is exempted from this participation.

BAHRAIN

Amir Receives U.S. Admiral Crowe 11 March

JN111602 Manama WAKH in English 1515 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] Manama, March 11 (GNA) — H.H the Amir of Bahrain Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah received here today Chief of Staff of the United States Forces Admiral William G. Crowe.

The meeting was attended by Bahraini Prime Minister Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifah, Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah, Chief of Staff of Bahraini Defence Force Major General Shaykh Khalifah ibn Ahmad Al Khalifah and U.S. Ambassador to Bahrain Sam Zakhem.

Admiral Crowe arrived here yesterday on a visit to Bahrain as a part of regional tour.

Prime Minister Receives Egyptian State Minister

JN111526 Doha QNA in Arabic 1410 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] Manama, 11 Mar (QNA) — His Highness Prime Minister Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifah received 'Adli 'Abd al-Shahid, Egyptian minister of state for emigration and Egyptians abroad, at noon today. WAKH said the prime minister affirmed that cooperation and coordination between the two countries in all fields have never halted. He noted that Egypt's stands on the Arab Gulf area show Egypt adheres to its pan-Arab line.

In a statement after the meeting, the Egyptian minister said his talks dealt with strengthening bilateral trade and economic relations and with establishing an exhibition for Egyptian products in Bahrain.

KUWAIT

Latin America Warned on Unilateral Debt Action

LD112218 Kuwait KUNA in English 1810 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, March 11 (KUNA) — Kuwait warned Latin and Caribbean countries Wednesday against any unilateral steps to solve their economic and financial problems.

Addressing the economic crisis of the region coupled with the mounting foreign debt these nations have incurred, Kuwait's United Nations Ambassador Muhammad A. Abu al-Hasan said there was an "inevitable necessity" to seek rational understandings about this problem.

"Proposals for reaching certain solutions to the economic crises must proceed through dialogue and negotiation while taking into consideration the legitimate interests of the concerned parties and the observance of international law and agreements," he said.

Abu al-Hasan made his remarks as the head of the Kuwaiti delegation at a special ministerial meeting of the Co-ordinating Bureau of the Nonaligned Movement.

The Kuwaiti envoy attributed the crisis in the Latin and Caribbean states mostly to the consequences of what he described as "neo-colonialism" and "the forces of exploitation and hegemony."

For tensions to diminish substantially in the region, it is imperative, he said, that international provisions and laws are fully observed.

"It is beyond doubt that stability and political security will lead to economic stability and prosperity, and that political justice will lead to economic justice," Abu al-Hasan said.

Ever since the dawn of their independence and liberalisation from the old colonialism, he said, the peoples of the region are being "bogged down in the morass of international polarisation."

Kuwait, Abu al-Hasan said, pins great hopes on the coming meeting of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD).

This meeting would offer an opportunity for developed and developing countries to undertake joint action with the view of formulating a plan to revive the world economy and to stimulate a balanced and lasting process of growth and development.

He said the growing gap between rich and poor countries and the obstacles created by the rich countries poses a major hindrance to the development process in the nonaligned countries.

These imbalances shortcomings in the global economic and financial systems must be corrected on the basis of justice, equality, mutual interest and benefit, which in turn would "propel the wheel of development, particularly the economies of the nonaligned and other developing nations," he said.

The region is now approaching a "historical cross-roads" that requires choosing either between further deterioration, Abu al-Hasan said, or a "mature political settlement free from all forms of outside interference and embarkment on the stages of development coordination and cooperation."

A deterioration would only benefit "those coveting the treasures of these nations and those who are eager to control their destiny and seize their sovereign determinations," he said.

"So let the search for a settelement of any disputes among the regional countries be through dialogue and understanding, and with a full respect for the rules that govern international relations and the principles on which center the Nonaligned Movement and the UN Charter," [words indistinct].

The last time the Nonaligned Movement's Co-ordinating Bureau met at the ministerial level on the problems of Latin America and the Caribbean was four years ago in Nicaragua.

Turning to the situation in Central America, the Kuwaiti envoy voiced criticism of the policies of the major powers who he said practice "dominion and intervention, the use of power or the threat of using it and economic pressures."

This, he said, has led to the exacerbation of the current situation and to the endangerment of peace and security.

"The escalation of aggression, the military attacks, the interference in internal affairs and the policies of intimidation and terror against the political independence and territorial integrity of the regional countries represent a flagrant violation of the principles and goals of the movement of nonaligned countries and international law," he said.

Abu al-Hasan warned that such policies are likely to increase the risks of armed conflict and thus should be avoided by any means.

It is Kuwait's view, Abu al-Hasan said, that any initiative to solve the regional disputes must be inspired by the principles of the United Nations and the philosophy of the Nonaligned Movement.

For this reason, Kuwait has supported all regional efforts such as the four-nation Contadora process with the help of the Support Group, the good offices of the United Nations secretary-general of any other effort stemming from within the Latin American community and aimed at a negotiated peaceful solution to the conflict in Central America.

He paid tribute to the secretary-general's report on Central America issued last month, describing it as an "adequate and concise deliniation of the situation in Central America and the atmosphere prevailing there.

He said the elements contained in the report must be taken into consideration while examining the situation in the region and the plans of establishing peace there.

"A clear political will is a prime requirement for breaking the vicious circle in which the proposed solutions are revolving," Abu al-Hasan said.

"The efforts exerted to provide the adequate momentum and to energise the peace efforts that were initiated by all concerned parties must continue without hurdles or weariness," he said.

SAUDI ARABIA

Fahd on OPEC, Arab Summit, Mideast Conference

LD112035 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic
1800 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Excerpts] The custodian of the two holy mosques, King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz has reasserted the Kingdom's position vis-a-vis OPEC. He said that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia was committed to the recent OPEC conference resolutions and desired stability in prices. He urged non-OPEC producing countries to avoid rivalries which could cause harm to all. The custodian of the two holy mosques made this statement in an interview with *Reuter* and Visnews in Riyadh on the eve of his official visit to Algeria.

In reply to a question on whether the custodian of the two holy mosques believed that $18 per barrel of oil was the first stage toward a higher price, and whether the Kingdom was prepared to cut production or sell less than its quota allocated by OPEC to defend the $18 price, he said: It may not be useful for me to make predictions about matters which can only be decided by an OPEC conference, if it is held. However, I can say that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia's petroleum production has gone down from 11 million barrels per day to 4.36 million barrels per day and even this went down to 4,133,000 barrels per day which is lower than what was decided by OPEC. The custodian of the two holy mosques explained that the Kingdom was not alone in deciding oil prices. However, it definitely desired stability in prices. The custodian of the two holy mosques stressed that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia will come forward with a request for convening an Arab summit when the matters entrusted to the Kingdom at the Fes conference have been accomplished. He said that that would prevent the convening of a summit conference in any Arab country or at the Arab League Headquarters in Tunisia, but added that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia will attend any conference held at any time and in any Arab country. The custodian of the two holy mosques pointed out that the Arab summit that is to be held in the Kingdom was decided upon at the Fes conference which asked the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to undertake many efforts regarding the cleansing of the Arab air and improving Arab relations.

The custodian of the two holy mosques explained that his visit to Algeria was at the invitation of His Excellency President Chadli Bendjedid and that paying a visit to King Hassan stemmed from the strong bilateral friendship.

He talked about the international peace conference and said that the convening of that conference was dependent on many matters, the most important of which was the PLO's decision regarding the Palestinian problem as a whole. He pointed out that the Palestinian people wanted to return to its homeland, and said the world should help this people return to its homeland and decide its own destiny.

The custodian of the two holy mosques talked about the Iraq-Iran war and said a victory in this war on the battlefield could not be regarded as a settlement. What we hope for and look forward to, however, is a peaceful solution between Iraq and Iran that would end this destructive war which is draining the two countries' resources and capabilities. We hope that this war will end in a peaceful way. [passage omitted]

The custodian of the two holy mosques stressed the fact that education is one of the most important matters on which any country relies. He said: I had the honor of serving my country as a minister of education in the first government to be formed during the reign of His Majesty King Sa'ud. At that time, there were not more than 35,000 students, but now there are more than 2.4 million male and female students in universities, colleges, and schools.

The custodian of the two holy mosques added: Now we have seven universities, and we have many students who are studying specialized subjects in such friendly countries as Britain, France, Germany and the United States. He added: The Kingdom's development and achievements are the result of the existing closeness and solidarity between the state and citizen. We are still aspiring for better things, and we hope to succeed in reaching our aspirations.

Government 'No Longer Interested' in German Arms

LD111918 Hamburg DPA in German 1820 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Excerpt] Hamburg, (DPA) — The newspaper *Bild* reports that the Saudi Arabian Government no longer wants to place orders with German firms worth DM8 billion for the building of submarines, port installations and repair shipyards. The order will go to France, whose government is ready to supply arms on a generous scale. According to *Bild*, the Saudi's have informed Christian Social Union Chairman Franz Josef Strauss of their decision by telephone.

In its Thursday edition, the paper says the Saudi royal family feels "deeply insulted" by the dilatory attitude of Federal Chancellor Helmut Kohl and Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher. Although the Federal Republic has the most modern weapons systems in the world, Riyadh is no longer interested in German weapons, Saudi Arabia has told Strauss. [passage omitted]

UAE

President Receives Iranian Oil Minister

JN111304 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1200 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 11 Mar (WAKH) — President His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan received Iranian Petroleum Minister Gholam Reza Aqazadeh here today. The Iranian minister is currently on a visit to the UAE. During the meeting, the two sides discussed bilateral relations and issues of common interest.

The Iranian minister acquainted Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan with the results of his tour of a number of OPEC member-states. They also reviewed the recent positive developments in and improvement of the oil market as a result of all member-states' adherence to OPEC's resolutions last December.

Attending the meeting were UAE Petroleum and Natural Resources Minister Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah and the Iranian ambassador to the UAE.

Oil Minister Departs

JN111520 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1445 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 11 Mar (WAKH) — Iranian Oil Minister Gholam Reza Aqazadeh left Abu Dhabi at noon today following a 1-day visit to the UAE at the end of a tour of a number of OPEC countries. He was seen off at the airport by UAE Oil and Natural Resources Minister Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah.

YAR

French Parliamentary Delegation Departs 11 March

JN111947 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] Michel (Conta), member of the French National Assembly and chairman of the French-Yemeni Friendship Society, and the delegation accompanying him left Sanaa today following a week-long visit. During its visit, the delegation held talks with brother officials of the Constituent People's Assembly. The French National Assembly's delegation also held talks with a number of officials on issues related to bilateral cooperation.

In a statement to SABA', the French official said his visit was successful. He added this visit will yield positive results which will serve friendly bilateral cooperation in the near future. He said he extended an invitation to Brother 'Abd al-Karim al-'Arashi, vice president, speaker of the Constituent People's Assembly, and member of the Standing Committee, to visit France. Concluding his statement, he noted that during his visit he discussed with brother officials issues related to bilateral cooperation, especially those concerning agricultural cooperation.

The French official was seen off at the airport by Brother Ahmad Husayn al-Marwani, Constituent People's Assembly member, some Assembly members, and the French ambassador in Sanaa.

Cabinet Discusses Economic Issues, Hears Reports

JN111459 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] The Council of Ministers held a periodic session at 0900 today under Brother 'Abd al'aziz 'Abd al-Ghani, prime minister and member of the Standing Committee. After it reviewed the resolutions it adopted during its previous session, the Council discussed the topics on its agenda, foremost among which is the periodic economic report on the our country's economic situation. The report emphasized the positive results of measures adopted by the government to deal with the economic situation and the noticeable development brought about by these measures — development which contributed to enhancing and bolstering the national economy.

During the meeting, the Council heard a report by Brother Dr 'Abd al-Karim al-Iryani, deputy prime minister, foreign affairs minister, and member of the Standing Committee, on the results of the meetings of the fourth session of the joint YAR-Sudanese ministerial committee. The Council then ratified the minutes of the meetings of this session and emphasized the desire to further develop and enhance existing bilateral relations in all areas of cooperation and also to coordinate with Sudan in agricultural, supply, educational, cultural, health, and trade fields.

The Council also heard a report by Brother Eng Ahmad Muhammad al-Ansi, minister of communications and support and member of the Standing Committee, on his visit to the fraternal Republic of Djibouti and the results of his talks with his brother the Djibouti minister of interior and communications. The Council praised the results of these talks and emphasized the importance it attaches to the need to continue to enhance the fraternal realtions between the two countries and to further develop them in all areas to embody the asipirations of the two fraternal countries' political leaderships and governments and to also embody the countries' eagerness to further develop and bolster bilateral relations in all areas.

Military Source Denies Pier Assigned to U.S.

JN120958 Doha QNA in Arabic 0905 GMT 12 Mar 87

[Text] Cairo, 12 Mar (QNA) — An Egyptian official military source has categorically denied reports that the Egyptian authorities have assigned one of the piers in the Egyptian Navy docks for the U.S. 6th fleet.

The leftist Egyptian newspaper *Al-Ahali* had reported in its 11 March issue that one of the piers in the Navy's Alexandria docks had been assigned to units of the U.S. 6th Fleet.

In a statement published in Cairo today the military source affirmed there is no foreign military presence in Egypt in any form whatsoever, and that the reports published were intended to distort the facts for ulterior motives. The source said the fact is that some units of the U.S. Navy entered the Navy docks in Alexandria for repair and maintenance work and that payment was made in hard currency for such services, just like any other ship that docks for repair work.

The source asserted that the Navy docks are part of the Ministry of Industry and not the Ministry of Defense and War Production.

Organization Threatens To Kill Israelis in Cairo

NC120928 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0915 GMT 12 Mar 87

[Text] Egypt's opposition paper *Al-Wafd* reports today that a secret organization calling itself Egyptian Revolution [thawrah misriyah] has threatened to kill any Israelis participating in the Cairo International Fair, which will be opened on Saturday.

The paper adds that Israeli Ambassador in Cairo Moshe Sason has received threats on his life. *Al-Wafd* states that Israeli intelligence personnel have arrived in Cairo to strengthen the protection measures for the Israelis there.

'Hardliner' Al-Baz Absent From Talks With Peres

PM111233 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic 5 Mar 87 p 1

[Unattributed Report: "Israel Welcomes Al-Baz Disappearance From Recent Talks"]

[Text] *Al-Wafd* has learned that Dr 'Usamah al-Baz, Foreign Ministry first secretary and director of the president's office for political affairs, did not participate in last week's talks during the visit of Shim'on Peres, the Israeli foreign minister. Dr al-Baz, who is rated as one the hardliners toward relations with Israel, was eliminated from the talks at all levels just to satisfy Peres and to make his visit to Cairo successful. The Egyptian Government agreed to the demands raised during the talks, including the settlement of the issue of compensating the families of the Israeli victims of the Ra's Burqah incident, the resumption of the search for the missing Israeli soldiers, and the opening of a new air route between Eilat and Luxor. The joint communique issued following the conclusion of the talks last Friday made no reference to the PLO or its role in an international conference so as not to embarrass Peres.

Al-Wafd has also learned that talks between President Husni Mubarak and Shim'on Peres covered the search for a new way for the representation of the Palestinians without the PLO participation at the early stages of an international conference.

After Shim'on Peres' visit the Israeli papers focused on the disapperance of Dr 'Usamah al-Baz, Foreign Ministry first secretary. The Israeli papers viewed this as a victory for Israel because Al-Baz is one of Israel's toughest opponents in Egyptian official circles. Al-Baz clearly proved this during the Alexandria summit last September.

Ugandan President Begins 2-Day Official Visit

NC121040 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 12 Mar 87

[Text] Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni begins a 2-day official visit to Egypt today, during which he will meet with President Husni Mubarak for talks on African issues and bilateral relations. The Ugandan president is expected to visit some factories today to inspect Egypt's industrial achievements.

Court Releases 203 Involved in 1986 Police Riots

JN120930 Doha QNA in Arabic 0909 GMT 12 Mar 87

[Text] Cairo, 12 Mar (QNA) — Egypt's Supreme State Security Court has decided to release 203 soldiers of the central security force at the Al-Ma'adi camp at the defense counsel's request.

This is the sixth case connected with the central security force incidents in which the accused have been released. The accused were referred to the office of the supreme state security prosecutor for interrogation following the disturbances and mutiny carried out by some soldiers of the central security force in February 1986.

The accused have been in custody since they were arrested immediately after the disturbances.

AL-AHALI Views Recent Sectarian Violence

JN111037 Cairo AL-AHALI in Arabic 4 Mar 87 p 1

[Editorial: "Sectarian Sedition and Change"]

[Text] Recent acts of violence which erupted in Al-Minya, Bani Suwayf, and Suhaj have extremely serious implications for the whole country. It is normal that there should be religious fanatics in any given community. Religious fanaticism degenerates, however, into a disease menacing the foundations of the community and its national fabric when the bigots mushroom, seek to violently impose their convictions, which are at variance with the essence of any faith, on others, succeed in winning over and manipulating sectors of the society to victimize adherents of other religions as well as other schools of their faith, and conduct dialogue using violence as the only language.

This imminent danger can only be explained in terms of the prevalant economic and social conditions. Religious fanaticism and sectarian violence are corollaries rather than causes. Fanaticism and violence escalate, outside forces step in to foment sedition to further their interests when the economic crisis exacerbates, the majority of the population fail to make ends meet and are caught up in the spiral of runaway inflation, finding accommodation becomes an impossibility, medical care becomes a prerogative of the affluent, and the educational system declines. Fanaticism and sectarian violence escalate when values become lopsided, consumerism predominates, money gained by fair or foul means become the one value that counts, and a vast gulf separates slogan from practice.

Fanaticism and sectarian violence escalate when the community loses its identity as well as its national and pan-Arab affiliation, and when, capitulating to the will of the enemy, the community's civilized behavior and patriotism become fanaticism.

Fanaticism and sectarian violence escalate when political action is under siege, a moratorium is placed on launching new parties, existing ones are besieged, elections are rigged, and the authorities interfere with trade union elections. When all such things happen and the people lose hope of change taking place through democratic means fanaticism and violence escalate.

It is no coincidence that a plethora of pseudoscientific, CIA-commissioned studies should be conducted on the so-called Islamic fundamentalists. It is no coincidence that major financial institutions closely tied with Arab regimes allied with U.S. imperialism and Israel should finance the fanatics in Egypt.

The recent sectarian violence has sounded the alarm. The threat cannot be averted by calling in police forces at the 11th hour. Rather, it must be uprooted once and for all. This will not be possible under a parasitic, subordinate, and corrupt government. The road to an end to sectarian sedition and violence and to a solution to all our problems is a comprehensive, democratic political change and displacement of those responsible for the comprehensive crisis.

Socialist Labor Party Leader Discusses Elections

JN031844 Cairo UKTUBAR in Arabic 1 Mar 87
pp 16, 17, 70

[Interview with Socialist Labor Party leader Eng Ibrahim Shukri by Muhammad Khalafallah; date, place not given]

[Excerpts] Socialist Labor Party [SLP] leader Eng Ibrahim Shukri says contesting the elections on a straight ticket is the main weakness of the parties. He says the Labor Party assumes the responsibility of getting its candidates as well as those of the Liberal Socialist Party [LSP] and the Muslim Brotherhood elected. It will also work to do better than it did in the last elections. Speaking to *Uktubar*, Eng Ibrahim Shurki touched on the secrets of the new alliance among Labor, Liberals, and the Muslim Brotherhood, their respective percentages of the seats, and the nomination for independent seats. Shukri said the party is opening the door to candidates of any affiliation. The Neo-Wafd Party withdrew from the unified ticket in favor of the NDP, he said. The alliance will fight the elections in all the constituencies under the Labor Party ticket, he added.

[Khalafallah] Who will do the electioneering — Labor, the Liberals or the Muslim Brotherhood?

[Shukri] We will promote the candidates of the three partners equally. We hope to poll more votes than we did in the 1984 elections.

[Khalfallah] Do you think the distribution of the seats — 40 each for the Labor Party and the Muslim Brotherhood, and 20 for the Liberal Party — truly reflects the respective weights of the alliance partners?

[Shukri] The percentages were agreed upon to begin with. Agreement on principles is more important than that. The point is how to group together as much opposition as posible, be it through the ticket or through independent seats. The idea of quotas is a guarantee for the parties listed on the ticket. I would not dwell on the percentages as mere figures though. What really matters is for the opposition to secure an appropriate number of seats under the ticket system, since the ticket is the main weakness of the parties.

[Khalafallah] Why is that so?

[Shukri] The ticket does not lead to a united front within a given party, much less when allied parties make up the ticket. Therefore, I would not dwell on the percentage issue. We are now trying to determine safe seats by agreement among the alliance partners. The aim is to achieve coordination among ourselves with a view to securing as much representation in the Assembly as possible.

[Khalafallah] Will the alliance be confined to the SLP and the LSP and the Muslim Brotherhood, or are there other alliances with political forces that are not represented in the parties?

[Shukri] There are alliances in all the parties with political forces not represented in the parties. Therefore, I do not rule out the possibility that other forces will join the SLP ticket. The SLP itself includes many elements; it includes Nasirites, and members of the Young Egypt Movement and the Socialist Party.

In fact, contacts are being made with political forces that are not represented by parties to encourage them to join the SLP ticket and to encourage them to contest independent seats and to coordinate among themselves to ensure victory. [passage omitted]

[Khalafallah] [NPUG leader] Khalid Muhyi al-Din has declared that you offered to share with the NPUG the quota allocated to the SLP in the alliance, and he refused. Why?

[Shurki] True, I invited him to join the tripartite alliance of the SLP, LSP, and Muslim Brotherhood, and I also offered to share the quota of 40 percent of the lists allocated to the SLP, but he refused. That demonstrates the truth of my claim that I do not pay much attention to the quota issue. [passage omitted]

[Khalafallah] What are the necessary guarantees in the forthcoming election campaign?

[Shukri] The most important guarantee is the judiciary's direct, fruitful supervision of the elections. In India, for instance, there is a judiciary body that supervises the elections and fully reviews the electoral lists, as well as a neutral ministry that supervises elections.

[Khalafallah] What are the "realistic" guarantees that can be provided under the present circumstances?

[Shukri] We now face a fait accompli, and act in accordance with the existing law. The parties have consented to contest the elections on the basis of the present law. Therefore, we call for greater supervision by the judiciary of the elections than in the past.

[Khalafallah] But is there a sufficient number of judges in Egypt to supervise the elections?

[Shukri] We call for supervision of the elections by all members of the judiciary and not just the judges. As many as four times the number of members of the judiciary who now participate in supervising the elections can be provided from the judges, counsellors, prosecutors general, and other members of the judiciary. What is important is that if it wants to the government can muster a greater number of the members of the judiciary to supervise the elections.

[Khalafallah] What about other guarantees?

[Shukri] We urged that the voter's presence be certified by his signature or fingerprint. The present procedure is for a symbol to be indicated next to the voter's name, and that facilitates forgery. As in most countries of the world, for every symbol indicated next to the voter's name a ballot is cast in the ballot box. [passage omitted]

[Khalafallah] What are the most important issues on which the SLP will concentrate in its election campaign, particularly since its ticket includes the LSP and the Muslim Brotherhood?

[Shukri] We will always concentrate on the need to amend all the laws related to citizens' freedoms, the abolition of the emergency laws, and the amendment of the elections law. We believe correcting the situation will open the way to practical, correct solutions to all of our problems. Once the people are properly represented they know their wishes and needs better, and they know better what they lack in any aspect of their daily lives. The people are patient in their demands and set the priorities they see fit. [passage omitted]

AL-JUMHURIYAH Hits Communist Al-Sadat Critique

JN110953 Cairo AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic 7 Mar 87 p 5

["A Word of Love" column by Muhammad al-Haywan]

[Text] A new book titled *Egypt in the Post-'Abd al-Nasir Era*" by author Aleksandr Kinazev has been published in the Soviet Union. This 300-page book, which was reviewed by Burhan al-Khatib of the Kuwaiti paper *Al-Watan*, puts 'Abd al-Nasir on a pedestal and of course deals a blow below the belt to Al-Sadat.

The book says verbatim: What took place during Al-Sadat's era was a defection from socialism, that the absence of an effective socialist grouping allowed this to take place, and that the nonelimination of the base hostile to socialism was behind the failure of the socialist policy. This means the Soviet author blames 'Abd al-Nasir for not killing all the forces hostile to communism and for allowing them to participate in running the country's affairs. The author then speaks about the 15 May coup as a struggle for power between the Communist forces and the forces that support the free world, and that the 15 May coup took place under revolutionary slogans.

The author also criticizes the 1973 war and says the objective of the war was to resorb domestic tension, enhance Al-Sadat's status vis-a-vis his opponents, assist Al-Sadat in carrying out a decisive change in domestic policy and in carrying out an open-door policy. This means the Soviets are against the 1973 war and against the open-door policy.

Pursuing his attack on Al-Sadat, the author criticizes Al-Sadat for abolishing the Socialist Union and establishing the plurality of parties. Of course, the communists were against the plurality of the parties because it highlighted their weakness and their true size.

The most serious aspect of the book is, however, the talk about the future. The book calls on the Communists in Egypt not to make any mention of the implementation of communism at the present time and not to put forth socialist slogans as well. The book says the most important thing at the present time is to liquidate the capitalist elements in Egypt and in the Arab world and to call for state control of foreign trade, entrenching village cooperatives, developing heavy industry, and focusing attention on combating religious sentiments.

Those who listen to the Communists in Egypt will realize they have received Moscow's message. They effectively refrained from calling for the implementation of socialism but opened fire on the successful men in Egypt and on those who express religious sentiments. They have also been lying in wait to expose the mistakes committed under the name of the open-door policy and are not at all referring to the successes scored by the private sector. They seek to assassinate the private sector with all means, and disseminate rumors about the corruption of the parties, and rejoice when any Nasirite returns to the limelight. They welcome him, encourage him, and support him in his rise to the top echelons of power, accompanied by some members of their vanguard grouping.

The image has become clear following the publication of this book and following its translation by an Arab newspaper. This clear image is the agreement between Nasirism and communism, between 'Abd al-Nasir and the Soviet Union.

Communique No 2,600 Details 10-11 March Combat

JN111800 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Communique No 2,600 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 11 March 1987]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our victorious Armed Forces have continued their glorious fighting, pledging to smash the aggressors and crush their remnants, affirming they are the shield of this great country, and deriving their strength from God, the supporter of believers.

The following is a summary of activities for last night and today:

1. In a frivolous attempt, the enemy attacked our positions in the IV Army Corps sector with one infantry brigade supported by tanks at 0350 [0050 GMT] today. Our brave soldiers of the heroic Abu 'Ubaydah Forces confronted the enemy. A violent battle was waged in which our glorious sons fought bravely and poured the wrath of Iraq on the Khomeyniites using artillery and various weapons and turned them into corpses in no-man's-land.

With God's help, the enemy attempt was smashed, and very heavy losses were inflicted on the scoundrels. The confirmed losses were 220 killed, in addition to the killed and wounded in the front line support units, which were annihilated beyond enemy lines.

At 1020 this morning, the remnants of the enemy fled, disappointed and defeated, leaving the bodies of their dead and large quantities of weapons and equipment on the battlefield. The situation was completely settled in favor of our victorious forces. Blessed be the heroic Abu 'Ubaydah Forces fighters and the heroic IV Army Corps — commanders, officers, and men — for these swift devastating blows.

2. At 0510 [0210 GMT] yesterday, an enemy force tried to attack our units in the northern area of operations. The heroic V Army Corps soldiers confronted the force with artillery, tanks, machine guns, and mortars and annihilated most of the enemy force. The few remnants fled. The Iranians sustained hundreds killed, and the rest retreated to their positions across the border. The Iranians also sustained heavy losses in weapons, equipment, and vehicles.

At 1510 yesterday, the situation was completely settled in favor of our valiant forces. Blessed be the faithful soldiers of the heroic V Army Corps — commanders, officers, and men.

3. The brave helicopter gunship knights today launched daring raids on the scoundrels' heads in the areas of operation. They gave good support to our units through 22 combat sorties, killing many enemy scoundrels and destroying a number of enemy boats, weapons, and equipment. Our knights then returned with their aircraft safely and victorious to base in God's care and protection.

4. To inflict more losses on the aggressors, our victorious forces in the heroic III Army Corps sector continued to concentrate their fire on enemy positons. Through their accurate, direct, and devastating blows our forces killed a number of scoundrels; destroyed 2 tanks and killed their crews; destroyed 6 shovels [preceding word in English] and killed 20 enemy personnel; destroyed 13 vehicles and killed or wounded their occupants; and destroyed 1 machine gun, 1 observation post, several infantry positions, and 5 ammunition dumps.

5. In the VII Army Corps sector two tubular launchers, seven ammunition dumps, one bulldozer, one mortar, and several weapons' emplacements were destroyed and their crews were killed.

6. In the VI Army Corps sector east of Tigris three vehicles were destroyed and their occupants were killed. Four other enemy soldiers were also killed.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 11 March 1987

Revolutionary Hojjat ol-Eslam Hakim Interviewed

AU111255 Vienna PROFIL in German No 10 9 Mar 87 p 39

[Interview with Hojjat ol-Eslam Hakim, chairman of the "Council for the Islamic Revolution in Iraq," by Michael Wrase in Tehran — date not given]

[Text] *Profil*: What is this organization of which you belong?

Hakim: We are a militant political organization. At present, our most important task is to participate in the fight against the Army of (Iraqi President) Saddam (Husayn). We are fighting with the strength of divisions. Furthermore, we are trying to unite all Iraqi opposition members, something we were largely able to achieve some months ago, when six Iraqi opposition groups, including two Kurdish groups, held a conference in Tehran.

Profil: The Iranian Army is a short distance from Basra in the south of Iraq. Do you expect a victory?

Hakim: Absolutely. The Iranians have attacked in a region where there are many Iraqi followers of the Islamic revolution. Saddam had to mobilize 120 brigades to defend Basra, but the Islamic fighters will soon attack on other parts of the front.

Profil: Where have your fighters, who are Iraqis themselves, fought against Iraqi troops?

Hakim: On Salechieh Island [spelling as published] opposite Basra. There we fought against Iraqi units that were three times our number and we lost many of our people. (In the meantime, the Iraqi Army has recaptured Salechieh Island — editors) Furthermore, our freedom fighters are fighting northwest of Basra, together with 2,000 Iraqi deserters.

Profil: If the Iranian forces are able to topple Saddam Husayn, do you then want to take over the government in Bagdad, or do you want to proclaim a countergovernment in the "liberated areas" even before that?

Hakim: All in good time. There are principles that are respected even by us — most of all the will of the Iraqi people. Of course, Iraq is a part of the Islamic world. But we will

recognize the Iraqis' fight for political independence. If more Iraqi territory is occupied, we will, of course, leave Iran. If there had not been so many members of the clergy shot in Iraq, then I would have never gone to Tehran.

Profil: You are responsible for the so-called "cultural care" for more than 60,000 Iraqi prisoners of war in Iran. Is it true that some of those prisoners are now themselves fighting against Saddam Husayn's Army?

Hakim: The Iraqi prisoners of war in Iran cannot be compared with the prisoners of war in other countries. These men were forced to fight against Iran. Actually, they are not prisoners, but our friends. They seized the opportunity at the front to flee to the Islamic Republic of Iran. Many of these friends now want to fight against Saddam. A few hundred of the released prisoners have already gone to the front; some have died a martyr's death. I have more than 10,000 letters, signed with blood, in which Iraqi prisoners of war express their willingness to fight against Saddam's army.

Husayn Presides Over Administrative Committee

JN111727 Amman Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn presided over a meeting of the Royal Committee for Administrative Development at the Royal Court today. His majesty was briefed on the committee's activities and recommendations reached during the study period of regulations and legislations aimed to develop the governmental administration cadres and public institutions. During the meeting, Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i outlined the working paper prepared by the committee incorporating its achievements and its recommendations with the aim of improving social and economic administration levels of the pertinent official authorities. Mr al-Rifa'i said efforts to attain the required development standards came to cope with modern developments in the legislative and regulative fields on the one hand and the socio-economic changes on local, Arab, and international levels during the past decades on the other hand. The meeting was attended by the chief of the Royal Court, the court minister, the commander in chief of the Armed Forces, the secretary general of the Hashemite Court, and cabinet ministers who are members of the committee.

Territories Ministry Official Meets UNESCO Envoy

JN111517 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1430 GMT 1 Mar 87

[Text] Amman, 11 Mar (PETRA) — Dr Ahmad Qatanani, under secretary of the Ministry of Occupied Territories Affairs, received in his office today Prof (Edward Buneit), the UNESCO envoy who is on a fact-finding mission regarding the situation of educational and cultural institutions in the occupied Arab territories. Dr Qatanani told Prof (Buneit) of the Israeli human rights violations in the occupied Arab territories and of the repressive practices of the occupation authorities against educational institutions there — practices that take the form of closing universities, colleges, and schools to hinder their efforts to achieve academic development.

Dr Qatanani also referred to the repeated storming operations by Israeli troops against universities and schools, the detention of students, and the confiscation of academic books and pamphlets, which all negatively affect the educational process in the occupied territories. The meeting was attended by the head of the ministry's Social, Health, and Educational Department, the head of ministry's Information Department, and the head of the UNESCO Department of the Ministry of Education.

Qatanani Meets West Bank Mayor, Charity Director

JN091649 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1445 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Text] Amman, 9 Mar (PETRA) — Dr Ahmad Qatanani, under secretary at the Occupied Territories Ministry, has received Mirwih al-Anis, mayor of the Municipality of Ya'bad [in the West Bank]. They reviewed municipality requirements, health projects, and the state of philanthropic societies and the government hospital in Janin with a view to upgrading services. Dr Qatanani stressed the need for town and village councils to cooperate with development committees in the occupied territory, which will oversee the implementation of the projects of the economic and social development plan.

The under secretary has also received Philip Davies, director of the Social Development Corporation operating in the occupied territory. Dr Qatanani explained to Davies projects of the development plan and government measures to oversee their implementation, especially in regard to the development committees. He emphasized the ministry's interest in coordinating with the Social Development Corporation in implementing projects of the development plan. Davies told the minister the corporation is willing to work jointly with the Occupied Territories Affairs Ministry in financing water projects. The Social Development Corporation is a charity concerned with funding water, health, and agriculture projects in the occupied territory. It also extends $5,000 loans to help farmers expand existing agricultural projects.

Dudin Cites Support for Gaza Port Construction

JN091844 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1730 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Fu'ad Na'im dispatch from Amman]

[Text] Marwan Dudin, Jordanian minister of occupied territories affairs, has declared that Jordan supports the idea of creating a commercial port on the Gaza coast to serve Arab citizens, and that Amman is prepared to study the feasibility of the project and participate in the construction of the port within the framework of the Jordanian development plan for the occupied territory.

Ilyas Frayj, mayor of Bethlehem in the occupied West Bank, last Sunday proposed the creation of a commercial port in Gaza that would contribute to the movement of exports and imports without the need to utilize Israeli ports. Dudin said if Israel agrees to its construction the port would enable Arab agricultural and industrial products to reach European markets cheaper and faster than at present.

However, the Jordanian minister said the project is not being studied at present and that he did not discuss it with Ilyas Frayj during the latter's visit to Amman last week.

Marwan Dudin said Jordan has set up nine development committees in the occupied territory to supervise the implementation of the projects adopted by the Jordanian Government within the framework of the development plan for the West Bank and Gaza Strip. He asserted that the committees' activity will enable the Jordanian Government to go ahead with the implementation of development projects in the occupied territory. He indicated funds for these projects will total $100 million this year.

Group Threatens To Execute French Hostage

NC121141 Paris AFP in English 1137 GMT 12 Mar 87

[Text] Beirut, March 12 (AFP) — The shadowy Revolutionary Justice Organisation threatened Thursday to "execute" French hostage Jean-Louis Normandin within 48 hours, in a statement to a Western news agency.

It said that Mr. Normandin, 34, a member of a television team kidnapped in Beirut just over a year ago, would be "tried and executed" unless French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac "clarifies" statements by President Francois Mitterrand on French hostages and Paris's military aid to Iraq.

The threat, contained in a handwritten note in Arabic delivered to a Western news agency, was accompanied by a colour photograph of Mr. Normandin.

It said the organisation, which also claims to hold Americans Joseph Cicippio and Edward Tracy, would consider itself "free of agreements concluded and present undertakings" after the death of Mr. Normandin.

Junblatt Interviewed on Developments, Waite

PM111214 Paris LE MATIN in French 9 Mar 87 p 7

[Interview with Lebanese Druze leader Walid Junblatt by Jean Boutros in Beirut — date not given]

[Text] The ritual never changes. Every Sunday, in the heart of his stronghold in the Al-Shuf Mountains (30 km south of Beirut), Walid Junblatt, leader of the PSP and transport minister, is primarily "Walid Bey," the Druze chief.

In his residence in Mukhtarah, a superb stone building clinging to a hillside, he receives his flock and listens, lectures, or advises. It is impressive to see this lanky young military leader in jeans and leather jacket welcoming old Druze men from the mountains in their traditional costumes.

The Main Loser

He moved from one to the other with a worried look, greeting fighters and shaykhs, receiving a Japanese delegation under the pictures of his ancestors that adorn one of the old halls that was filled with the gentle aroma of Turkish coffee.

But, aside from his imagination and his look of permanent distraction, his sensational statements and a pessimism which is understandable after 12 years of war, Walid Bey is now one of Lebanon's most lucid and clever politicians. But, above all, he is one of its most independent politicians, and that is difficult to achieve.

Of course, on paper, the PSP leader is Syria's ally, but nobody is taken in by that. The overwhelming hegemony of the Amal Shi'ite Movement — Damascus' main ally — in West Beirut, and its relentless attack on the Palestinian camps are all subjects that have widened the gulf between Kamal Junblatt's son and the Syrians in recent months.

So much so that he took the trouble to say a month ago: "We have not declared war on Syria."

Everything has changed now. 10,000 Syrian soldiers are watching over security in West Beirut and Junblatt's fighters have been forced to leave the city as part of the first phase of the Syrian peace plan: "It is not a bad first step, but there must be others — for instance action in the 'southern suburb' (stronghold of the Shi'ite fundamentalists — *Le Matin* editor's note) — before there can be complete peace and before the situation is fair to everybody."

[Boutros] Do you think the Syrians will enter the southern suburb?

[Junblatt] I believe it is in their interests to do so; it is up to them to decide. [Junblatt ends]

Political and Military Defeat

During the week of fierce fighting between the PSP and Communists on one side and the Amal Shi'ite Movement on the other, which preceded the arrival of the Syrian soldiers, the "Progressives" had virtually gained control of the city. They have now had to withdraw to the Al-Shuf, murders of Communist Party members (the "fraternal party") are increasing in southern Lebanon, and it is still not known what will happen to the Palestinians in the camps. Thus most observers now see Junblatt as the main loser.

[Junblatt] We have done nothing but lose battles since 1976; all our victories have been taken from us, and so we have grown accustomed to losing.

[Boutros] Do you mean you have lost?

[Junblatt] It must be admitted that there is a balance of forces which, unfortunately, cannot be changed in this unhappy country, but this is merely prolonging the Lebanese people's suffering and I have the impression this will last another 20 years. [Junblatt ends]

Hizballah Responsible

Junblatt seems to admit his mistakes, which is rare among Lebanese politicians: "We missed the opportunity to establish a new 'national movement' after 6 February 1984 (the date when the Muslim militia seized West Beirut — *Le Matin* editor's note). Today we must accept the consequences of our political and military defeat. We are certainly not opposed to the Syrians' entry; it is a stabilizing factor, but there are obstacles — there are the hostages and the southern suburb, and the Christian camp, namely, Amin al-Jumayyil and his clique, could very well sabotage the Syrian plan.

[Boutros] Are you not afraid of paying the price in the political sphere?

[Junblatt] Things will be fine; you can grow accustomed to anything. [Junblatt ends]

In addition to the Syrian peace plan, the Lebanese are having talks in Damascus to draw up a new political plan aimed at

settling the crisis and redistributing positions on the political chessboard.

Junblatt is skeptical about this: "Will giving a little more power to one of the communities at the expense of the others stabilize Lebanon? Never, but this is what people are trying to do; it is what they have been trying to do for 12 years."

The Lebanese Armed Forces are at the center of the discussions. Junblatt is not opposed to some degree of Syrian supervision: "These Armed Forces are directed by the CIA and I prefer Syria to the CIA."

[Boutros] Would you not prefer an independent Lebanese army?

[Junblatt] There is nothing independent in Lebanon; we are Arabs, our strategic choice is not the United States or Israel, it is Syria. [Junblatt ends]

Finally, of course, the Druze leader (who was clearly annoyed), could not avoid the question of the hostages and the fate of Terry Waite, the British envoy who was being protected by his men before he disappeared.

"Listen, he came and decided to go to see God's people alone. God's envoy has disappeared with God's people" (reference to Hizballah, God's Party — *Le Matin* editor's note), he said with a smile of amusement.

[Boutros] Are you accusing Hizballah?

[Junblatt] Yes, I state clearly and categorically that it is responsible.

[Boutros] Is Hizballah now holding Terry Waite?

[Junblatt] I believe so. This accusation may put Terry Waite's life in danger. Let Hizballah say he is not with them and put an end to the matter." [closing quotation mark as recieved]

Kan'an Warns Troops After West Beirut Explosions

NC111446 Paris AFP in English 1415 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] Beirut, March 11 (AFP) — Syrian General Ghazi Kan'an, in charge of Syrian forces in Moslem-dominated West Beirut, told his troops Wednesday to be "doubly careful."

The warning came after West Beirut was shaken Tuesday by three bomb explosions, the first since Syrian troops entered the sector on February 22. The blasts damaged buildings but there were no reports of victims.

Gen. Kan'an, who is also chief of Syrian military intelligence, also ordered his troops to "strike with an iron fist at all those who upset public order", the pro-Moslem Beirut daily *Al-Safir* said.

Shortly before the blasts, Syrian soldiers had arrested 15 students belonging to political organizations. Three of these were still in custody Wednesday and were being questioned about weapons found by Syrian troops in West Beirut, sources here said.

Meanwhile, the Syrian pacification plan was to due to enter a new phase Wednesday, as troops were ordered to photograph all persons crossing between city's east and west sectors.

A senior Lebanese police chief said the photographs would be irrefutable proof in cases of reported abductions of persons who had crossed into West Beirut from the predominantly Christian eastern sector.

All gambling rooms, bars and cabarets operating without a licence in West Beirut are scheduled to be closed and motorcycle riding at night has been banned.

Kan'an Issues Statement on University Incident

NC111633 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] Brigadier General Ghazi Kan'an, head of the security and surveillance department of the Syrian forces in Lebanon, has issued the following statement:

Certain suspect information media have once again resorted to their usual practice of inventing facts and fabricating tendentious rumors to distort the truth about the security situation in West Beirut. They are trying to undermine our recent achievements, which have restored security and stability to this part of the city and prevented hostile violations aimed at disrupting all aspects of civilian life, and particularly the normal functioning of universities, general establishments, and foreign embassies.

Kan'an went on to say: These forces, which profited from the deterioration of security in West Beirut, have been thrown into a panic by the major successes that have been achieved. Thus they have launched a campaign through suspect media to distort the facts and spread venom in an attempt to bring chaos and devastation back to this area.

As regards the incident at the American University of Beirut, what happened was that the regular forces took specific measures against certain forces trying to conceal themselves among the students to create security rifts. Proceeding from information available to them, the regular forces detained certain suspect individuals and interrogated them. In this connection, we would like to state the following:

1. We are very anxious to safeguard the freedom of political action in all forms, both within the university and outside it. We will, however, deal strictly with any security violations or any act involving arms within the university or outside.

2. Certain parties are seeking, by their political and security acts against the university, to strike at centers of learning and remove all signs of cultural and academic activity from the region. As part of our national task, and in complete coordination with the Lebanese security departments, we will use every means at our disposal to prevent these parties from achieving the objectives of their conspiracy.

Kan'an added: We have taken a number of measures that will guarantee the security of the university, students, and professors.

We will hold all forces responsible for any action that harms academic institutions. They will be severely punished if they embark on any action endangering these establishments.

Regarding the incident that occurred at a restaurant in the Al-Hamra' area on Saturday evening: After there had been some gunfire, the regular force patrols surrounded the area, detained all gunmen, and confiscated their weapons. The gunmen were jailed as a deterrent measure, and so that they could be called to account for their action against Beirut and its security. We wish to stress that security and order take priority over political or any other considerations. We repeat that we will show no leniency to any party that tries to tamper with the people's security. We will take the view that any such party is conspiring against the homeland and citizens, and we will treat it accordingly.

Remaining 3 Students Released

NC121101 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0715 GMT 12 Mar 87

[Text] Yesterday evening the Syrian forces released three students from the American University of Beirut. They were detained for questioning when their 12 colleagues were released the day before yesterday.

Kan'an 'Sentenced' to Death by Liberation Front

NC120905 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0845 GMT 12 Mar 87

[Text] An organization calling itself the Lebanese Liberation Front has declared that it has sentenced butcher Ghazi Kan'an [chief of Syrian military intelligence in Lebanon] to death for having committed crimes of looting and murder, just like his brother Fakhri Kan'an, who was killed by Sunni extremists in 1983 for having carried out robberies on the Lebanese-Syrian border.

In a statement, the organization accused Ghazi Kan'an of committing acts of robbery in West Beirut to complete the construction of his palace in his hometown of (Al-Muhammarah) in Syria.

AL-SAFIR on Ja'ja' Fate, Syrian Plan

NC111223 Beirut Dometic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] Citing government sources, the *Al-Safir* newspaper has reported that the controversy involving Dr Samir Ja'ja' [commander in chief of the Lebanese Forces] has almost been resolved and that a quasi-agreement has been reached with Ja'ja' to leave Beirut. However, ongoing discussions are focused on guarantees with regard to his personal and political status.

The paper has also published information to the effect that a Syrian proposal has been presented to President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil. This proposal provides for the Army's deployment on the eastern side of all the contact lines at the same time that the crossing points between Beirut's two sectors are reopened.

Ja'ja' on Economic Plan, Greater Beirut Security

NC111753 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1645 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Excerpts] The Lebanese Forces led by Samir Ja'ja' took a step forward today to confront the economic campaign against Lebanese citizens, a campaign being implemented by Syria and its tools in Lebanon. [passage omitted]

To mark the 12 March uprising, Lebanese Forces Commander Samir Ja'ja' held a news conference at the Lebanese Forces Headquarters this afternoon. During the conference, he announced a social and economic plan to introduce immediate subsidies for certain essential commodities. The plan will apply to the needy sectors of the population in the free areas. [passage omitted]

Responding to a question by reporters, Ja'ja' said the Lebanese Forces will continue their campaign and their pressure to force the prime minister to resign, so that a new government may be formed to deal with the economic situation and restore it to what it was.

Ja'ja' said the current negotiations in Damascus cannot lead to a serious, effective, and comprehensive solution to the Lebanese situation.

Regarding the situation in East Beirut Ja'ja' stressed that coordination is continuing between the Lebanese Forces and the Lebanese Army. He said he is ready to proceed with the greater Beirut plan, provided the Lebanese Army assumes its responsibilities throughout greater Beirut. He questioned the legality of the presence of the Syrian forces in West Beirut.

Islamic Grouping Urges Syrian Summit 'Soon'

NC111515 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] The Islamic Grouping has asserted that responsible officials undoubtedly appreciate the need for holding a Lebanese-Syrian summit soon, noting this summit will mark the beginning of the anticipated easing of tension.

In a statement issued a short while ago the grouping said it hopes that quick steps will be taken to eliminate contact lines and reopen crossing points, ports, and Beirut airport so that the security plan may truly benefit the citizens.

The grouping's statement said it would be useful for the entities concerned with implementing the plan to open one or more offices to receive citizens' complaints, dealing with them quickly and effectively. The grouping regretted that voices are being raised here and there in a bid to distort the plan, sowing doubt about it and undermining the ongoing political discussions in Damascus.

1 Palestinian Killed, 2 Wounded Near Shatila
NC111028 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0945 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] One military official from the Palestinian Popular Struggle Front [PPSF] was killed and two others were wounded when a PPSF group attempted to infiltrate into Shatila camp by way of the Al-Kulliyah Al-'Amiliyah line this morning.

According to a Palestinian source, Palestinian casualties in the recent fighting have risen to 1 dead and 17 wounded since yesterday.

Resistance Kills Israeli Soldier, Wounds Three
NC120713 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0704 GMT 12 Mar 87

[Text] We have just received the following report from our correspondent in southern Lebanon: National resistance fighters ambushed an Israeli occupation forces as it was moving through the village of Rshaf at 0600 today. One Israeli soldier was killed and three others were wounded. The Israeli forces are now massing troops and vehicles at the approaches to the village prior to entering it. Israeli helicopters are engaged in intensive search sorties.

Soviet Ambassador Receives Message From Sfayr
NC111732 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] Soviet Ambassador in Beirut Vasiliy Kolotusha has received a written message from Maronite Patriarch Nasrallah Sfayr on the current situation in Lebanon. Bishop Khalil Abu Nadir delivered the message. It has also been disclosed that Bishop Roland Abu Jawdah has visited the American and British Embassies and Mufti Hasan Khalid as an envoy of Patriarch Sfayr, and Sfayr has met with Papal Nuncio Luciano Angeloni three times in a week.

SDAR President Confers With Foreign Minister

JN111049 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1015 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' received Polisario Secretary General Brother Mohamed Abdelaziz, and the accompanying delegation, today. They discussed current developments in the Arab region, especially in the Arab Maghreb.

Meets With Al-Asad

JN111200 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] At 1300 today, President Hafiz al-Asad received Mohamed Abdelaziz, SDAR president and Polisario secretary general, and the accompanying delegation. The meeting was attended by Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the Ba'th Party. The talks revolved around the situation and developments in the Arab Maghreb and the Arab East.

Holds Talks With Talas

JN112050 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2015 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] General Mustafa Talas, deputy commander of the Army and Armed Forces, deputy prime minister, and defense minister, received Mohamed Abdelaziz, SDAR president and Polisario secretary genneral, and the accompanying delegation, this evening. During the meeting, they discussed the brotherly relations between the SDAR and Syria as well as ways to promote them.

Oil Minister Returns From Visit to USSR

JN102102 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1500 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Damascus, 10 Mar (SANA) — Oil and Mineral Wealth Minister Dr Ghazi Durubi and the accompanying delegation returned from Moscow today after a week-long visit to the USSR. In an arrival statement, Dr Durubi said that, as a result of his talks with officials of the Petroleum and Planning Ministries, a protocol for cooperation between Syria and the USSR was signed. Under the protocol, the USSR will reinforce the Syrian oil extraction industry, invest in Syria, and supply all production equipment requirements. He added the USSR also pledged to develop the extraction of Syrian phosphate and to import large quantities.

Al-Na'ib Meets Arab League's Ibrahimi 11 March

JN111508 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1255 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] Damascus, 11 Mar (SANA) — 'Isam al-Na'ib, minister of state for foreign affairs, met here today with Lakhdar Ibrahimi, Arab League assistant secretary general, in the presence of 'Abd al-Ghani al-Ashi, chairman of the Arab Red Crescent Society; and 'Abd al-Karim Ja'far, representative of the Kuwaiti minister of health.

During the meeting, which was also attended by Zuhayr 'Aqil, general commissioner of the Israel Boycott Office in Damascus, talks dealt with securing the entry of medical and foodstuff supplies into the areas of those harmed by the latest incidents in Lebanon.

Foreign Ministry Resumes Contacts on Golan

JN111355 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] The Foreign Ministry today resumed its contacts with international bodies and organizations to inform them about the oppression and terrorism the Israeli authorities are committing against our people in the occupied Golan. Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' sent messages to ICO Secretary General Sharifuddin Pirzada, Zimbabwean Foreign Minister Witness Mangwende, president of the Nonaligned Movement; and OAU Secretary General Ide Oumarou. The messages exposed the barbaric practices of the Israeli forces of occupation, which reached their peak on 8 March when the residents of the occupied Golan participated in the Syrian people's celebration of this glorious anniversary. The messages also highlighted the adherence of our people in the occupied Golan to their Syrian Arab identity, their absolute loyalty to Syria and its leader, and their determination to confront occupation until liberation.

In another development Yusuf Shakkur, foreign ministry under secretary, summoned the ambassadors of France, PRC, USSR, the U.S. charge d'affaires, and the Australian ambassador, whose country looks after British interests in Syria. The countries of these envoys are permanent members at the Security Council. The Belgian ambassador was also summoned, as his country is the current EC president. The ambassadors of socialist countries in Damascus were also summoned. He drew their attention to the fact that Israel's barbaric and oppressive practices against our people in the Golan will seriously aggravate the situation in the region and pose a threat to world peace and security.

Continuing Reportage on Reaction to Pollard Case

Inner Cabinet Issues Communique

TA111736 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1705 GMT 11 Mar

["Official communique" issued by the Israeli Inner Cabinet following the 11 March special session on the Pollard affair, read by Cabinet Secretary Elyaqim Rubinstein at the Prime Minister's Office in Jerusalem — recorded]

[Text] The Inner Cabinet discussed the Pollard case today. As will be recalled, at the time the Government of Israel expressed its regret to the United States over this incident, which is not in harmony with government policy. The relevant unit was abolished, and directives have been issued to prevent similar cases from occurring in the future. Israel also took an unprecedented step in cooperating with the United States in investigating the case. This was done in light of the special relations between the two countries.

Because of the special significance of this case, the Inner Cabinet decided to set up a two-member probing committee [va'adat berur] on the matter, which will submit its findings to the cabinet plenum. An announcement will be made shortly on the composition of the committee.

The cabinet will assist the Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee subcommittee dealing with the issue in executing its mission.

Thank you very much.

Background of Committee Viewed

TA111924 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew
1900 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Report from the studio by political correspondent Yig'al Goren]

[Text] The Inner Cabinet's decision following 8 hours of deliberations that two investigatory channels would be pursued, through an investigations commission and an inquiry at the subcommittee of the Knesset's Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, surprised many people this evening, because as recently as yesterday Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir opposed any official investigation of the affair except by way of a briefing of the Knesset subcommittee. He furthermore publicly announced that as far as Israel is concerned the case is closed, and anyone who does not know any details about the affair should remain ignorant. Until today Vice Prime Minister Shim'on Peres also supported only an investigation of the affair at the subcommittee level. However, when the full import of U.S. criticism of Israel was fully comprehended during the past 24 hours, the prime minister also understood it would be impossible to avoid a real investigation this time, as the dangers this affair involves for Israel among U.S. public opinion, the Administration, and the Jewish community are very real.

Indeed, only after the Inner Cabinet heard very detailed reports convincing the ministers that the situation is very grave did Finance Minister Moshe Nisim raise the suggestion that an investigations commission be appointed, according to the law on investigatory committees. He even suggested the former president of the Supreme Court, Moshe Landau, and former Chief of Staff Tzvi Tzur for members to the committee. Although this is not a regular commission of inquiry, the Inner Cabinet emphasized, it has broad moral authority. It is also independent, which makes this the most honorable solution.

The decision to examine the affair through more than one channel, ministers believe, will appease the U.S. and Israeli public.

The finance minister's proposal was passed by unanimous vote. A short while after the Inner Cabinet session ended, its resolution was summarily reported to the State Department and the National Security Council through the Israeli Embassy in Washington.

Committee Members Named

TA111617 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1600 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] The Inner Cabinet has decided to set up an independent probing committee to investigate the Pollard affair. It will submit its recommendations to the cabinet plenum. The probing committee will include two members: former Supreme Court President Moshe Landau and former Chief of Staff Tzvi Tzur.

Our political correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami reports that one of the candidates has already agreed to be part of the committee while the other will announce his decision within 24 hours.

Our legal affairs correspondent Moshe Negbi points out that a probing committee does not have the enforcement powers of a state commission of inquiry. It cannot force witnesses to appear before it or to reply to its questions. The committee's recommendations will not be legally binding. The cabinet decided to set up a similar probing committee in the past to look into the massacres in Sabra and Shatilla with the participation of Justice Kahan, but the latter refused because such a committee would not have had sufficient authority.

Landau Rejects Appointment

TA121050 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1040 GMT
12 Mar 87

[Text] Former Supreme Court President Moshe Landau has informed Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir he is not prepared to head the investigation commission on the Pollard affair. In a statement he released at midday, Judge Landau says that although he does not oppose the idea of an investigation commission per se, his former position as judge and his view on the judicial authority of such a commission prevent him from personally fulfilling the position. Judge Landau thanked the prime minister and the Inner Cabinet for the trust they had shown in him. Our political correspondent 'Oz Frankel reports that in the wake of Judge Landau's announcement, Cabinet Secretary Elyaqim Rubinstein is now making an effort to find other candidates to head the investigation commission on the Pollard affair.

Attorney To Head Committee

TA121439 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1420 GMT 12 Mar 87

[Text] The inquiry committee [va'adat berur] on the Pollard affair will be headed by attorney Yehoshu'a Rottenstreich, who, among other things, holds the post of president of the Press Council. This has just been reported by our political correspondent 'Oz Frankel.

Attorney Rottenstreich accepted the prime minister's request to head the committee after Judge Moshe Landau refused to head it. The second member of the inquiry committee is Reserves Lieutenant General Tzvi Tzur.

A short time ago the cabinet secretariat released the letter of appointment of the committee, in which it is stated that in the course of its work the committee will be authorized to receive any information it deems necessary, both verbally and in documents, from any person the members of the committee deem fit. The committee's deliberations will be secret.

In the letter of appointment, the prime minister appeals to the two members of the committee, saying: I would be very grateful if you submitted your report and the recommendations you deem necessary through me to the cabinet as soon as possible.

Eban Pleased With Probes

TA111700 Tel Aviv Educational Television in Hebrew 1525 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] Mr Abba Eban, chairman of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, called us a few minutes ago to express his satisfaction with the fact that the cabinet has now agreed to put the Pollard affair up for inquest on both the parliamentary and cabinet levels. This is the announcement by Abba Eban.

Beilin on Bilateral Ties

TA111653 Tel Aviv Educational Television in Hebrew 1500 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Interview with Dr Yosi Beilin, the Foreign Ministry's political director general, by anchorman Gid'on Reicher — live in the studio]

[Text] [Reicher] Dr Yosi Beilin, the Foreign Ministry's political director general, is in our Jerusalem studio. Good evening to you.

[Beilin] Good evening.

[Reicher] We originally wanted to ask you about the inner cabinet session, but we have already heard a little about it, so now we will ask you about the implications of the so-called Pollard affair on our relations with the United States. Your ministry has drawn up a document that discusses the import the affair could bring to bear on our relations with the United States. Could you be more specific?

[Beilin] The Foreign Ministry is duty-bound to first present the issue to the foreign minister and the entire cabinet. The issue of Israeli-U.S. relations is, naturally, central to Israel's foreign policy. Consequently, by nature we occasionally discuss these relations. A meeting was held by the Foreign Ministry's directorate, and as in many other sessions the minister was given a paper offering various policy alternatives. Unfortunately, word got out about this, even though it is an internal paper and many similar papers are regularly drawn up for the minister which usually do not present a definitive option, but rather raise various alternative proposals for a decision.

[Reicher] So if we were to ask you about the economic aid, does the document mention the possibility of the United States cutting aid to Israel because of the Pollard affair?

[Beilin] The document does not address this question specifically, but still it is believed the United States will not withhold economic and military assistance from Israel over the Pollard case. The problem is not one specific issue that will be manifest today or tomorrow, but involves our desire not to mar the atmosphere and the important relations we have with the United States. Some people believe we have reached an unprecedented low, unlike anything before, but I believe this is inaccurate. I remember very difficult times in September 1982, when Israel bombarded Beirut, when every evening U.S. television broadcasts showed the victims. These were extremely difficult times for Israel, so I believe this is not the most serious event in bilateral relations, although certainly one must not minimize it. It is undeniably very problematic. We must deal with it, and it is our job in the Foreign Ministry to present the cabinet with relevant alternatives within the overall Israeli policy.

[Reicher] Take our strategic cooperation with the United States, for example. Could the Pollard affair possibly torpedo this cooperation? Is this a likelihood?

[Beilin] No, I do not believe this affair will harm cooperation between us and the Americans even on the strategic plane. If you ask me for my current personal assessment, or that of the Foreign Ministry, it is that no such damage will be done. However, the question, as I said, should not focus on one thing or one specific point. We are highly interested in having very good relations with the United States.

[Reicher] What, really, can we do? Naturally, the people cannot decide for the political echelon, but what can we do now to appease, if only a little, the United States, which is very angry with us?

[Beilin] I have just come from a very lengthy session, as you know, so although I will not and do not want to address what took place there or the decisions made — even if what your correspondent has just reported on the inner cabinet session is more or less correct — this matter, which first of all affects Israel but which also affects the United States, is very important.

[Reicher] Since you mentioned, if only briefly, the session you are forbidden to report on, perhaps you could clarify some legal matter: Can the committee that the Inner Cabinet decided to establish revoke the appointments of Avi'em Sela' and Refa'el Eytan?

[Beilin] Once again, without referring to the resolution, no commission of inquiry in whatever form, whether it is a legal commission of inquiry, a commission of examination [va'adat bediqa], or a recommendations committee [va'adat hamlatza], can directly do this. Any committee of this nature, whatever its authority, can only recommend moves to the people or the body that appointed it. Since the body that appoints such committees is sometimes the cabinet and at other times the Knesset, only the appointing bodies can decide afterwards what they will do with the recommendation or resolution of the committee. Thus, the answer to your question is simply no.

[Reicher] As one who, may I say, closely monitors the pulse of our relations with the United States, would you say that this inner cabinet resolution will indeed please the Americans somewhat?

[Beilin] I believe so. This is a very important decision. As I said, the moment it is published the details will be far more full and accurate, and I believe that everyone would agree that such a resolution has implications that are both domestic and external insofar as the Americans are concerned. The resolution takes the developments very seriously and I think it provides an answer to them.

[Reicher] Thank you very much.

Opposition Not To Attend Forum

TA111826 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Excerpt] Opposition members have not been invited to tomorrow's first meeting of the Knesset Intelligence Subcommittee on the Pollard affair due to opposition from the ranks of the Likud. Ffazar Gganot of the left-wing MAPAM Party and Refa'el Eytan of the right-wing Tehiya were originally invited, but the invitations were canceled. Labor Alignment circles fear that the absence of the opposition could harm the image of the subcommittee as a substitute for a full-blown state commission of inquiry into the Pollard affair. [passage omitted]

IDF 'Not Involved'

TA111712 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] IDF Spokesman Brigadier General Efrayim Lapid, has said cooperation between Israel and the United States is very important to the IDF, and the Army seizes every possible opportunity to make it plain to the Americans that the IDF was not involved in the Pollard affair in any way.

Brig Gen Lapid was speaking to correspondents in the south. He said the involvement of Colonel Avi'em Sela' in the affair was marginal and did not stem from his military position.

Levi Supports Promotion

TA112058 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Moshe Levi is opposed to any intention of revoking the promotion of Colonel Avi'em Sela'. In an interview with our army affairs correspondent Moshe Shlonsky, Levi said such a move could cause great harm to the defense establishment and could pave the way for U.S. intervention in the IDF's appointment process.

The chief of staff said: I believe that in principle and from the practical point of view, revoking the Sela' promotion is not the solution. He added that the Pollard affair was a serious mistake and may appear as grounds for looking into the Sela' promotion, but he has already made his opinion known.

Our correspondent points out that the chief of staff supported giving Col Sela' both a new rank and the new position.

Subcommittee Meeting Ends

TA121216 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 12 Mar 87

[Text] The Knesset Intelligence Subcommittee concluded a meeting on the Pollard affair this afternoon at the defense minister's office in Tel Aviv.

Our correspondent Tal Rabina reports that after 3 and 1/2 hours, Abba Eban, Ehud Olmert, Simha Dinitz, David Magen, Yosef Burg, and Eliyahu Ben-Elisar emerged from the meeting but totally refused to say anything.

MA'ARIV Sees 'Cover-Up'

TA111234 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 11 Mar 87 p 10

[Commentary by Shmu'el Segev: "Blackmail?"]

[Text] This week Deputy Minister Roni Milo supplied the most convincing answers to why a commission of inquiry on the Pollard affair should be established without delay. Appearing at a party rally, Milo claimed he knew from a "reliable source" that Shim'on Peres ought to be the last person to want an inquiry commission of this type. Milo was thus hinting that responsibility for the "gravest blunder in the country's history," as it was described by Isar Har'el [a former Mossad chief], would reach as far as the vice prime minister.

I do not know who Milo's sources are, but if there is no inquiry, this is precisely what the Likud will claim in the next elections. Even if they do not repeat this publicly, the Likud spokesmen will almost certainly spread the word by whispering that "it was the Alignment that opposed the inquiry for fear that it would harm Peres..." Therefore, if the Alignment wants to survive it has no alternative but to insistently demand an investigation into the affair, even if only to stop the Likud from raising a dangerous claim that could cause even more damage to the country's vital interests.

The investigation into the Pollard affair is required not to punish those involved in the blunder, but to clarify the decisionmaking process and determine just who was responsible for the grave deviations in the functioning of the Science Liaison Bureau, which operated for more than 25 years as part of the Defense Ministry.

In the Pollard affair there were grave deviations in the above bureau's operational method, such as Pollard's involvement in pure espionage, which has absolutely nothing to do with "scientific relations."

Whoever employed Pollard deviated from an unequivocal order issued after the "Lavon affair" in 1954 banning the recruitment of Jewish agents in their country of residence. This order was issued out of the fear that the exposure of such an agent would harm the Jewish community in general in that country.

When the Pollard affair first broke, Israel rushed to declare that this had been an isolated incident carried out without the approval of the political echelons and counter to the policy of the Israeli Government. When this announcement was first released, many people believed this was indeed an isolated incident, but doubts were aroused regarding the echelons responsible. These doubts originated with the identification of Refa'el Eytan, the man who headed the Science Liaison Bureau during Ari'el Sharon's and Moshe Arens' terms as ministers of defense. As one who had emerged from the school of Isar Har'el, who was known for his scrupulous insistence on the most rigorous operational discipline, Refa'el Eytan — who played a part in the capture of Eichmann and took part in many secret missions — was not known for being "wild" and for violating operational instructions. Anyone with the vaguest idea about intelligence work knows that anyone with a past like Eytan's would not have acted in the Pollard affair without approval and authority. The United States also understands this, and was therefore amazed when Refa'el Eytan was appointed to head one of the country's largest economic concerns. The United States asked, and rightly so: If Eytan really did act without authority, why was he given this economic prize? Was his appointment as head of Israel Chemicals not the result of a need to pay him blackmail money so that he would continue to cover up for the political echelons?

Nevertheless, because of Israel's strategic importance and special significance in the Middle East, the United States "swallowed" Eytan's appointment, although gritting its teeth. However, when the "Sela' affair" reared its head last week, that was pushing it too far and the United States reacted as it did.

When the national unity government was established some people feared it would turn into a national paralysis government. Regrettably, the Pollard affair has proven it has turned into a national cover-up government. As such, it no longer has any right to exist. Therefore, if setting up a commission of inquiry means new elections, it would be better to hold these elections soon to establish a government that will lead the nation honestly and wisely.

Press Views Inquiry

TA120859 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0430 GMT 12 Mar 87

[From the review of morning press editorials]

[Text] *Ha'aretz* says that the inquiry committee will turn out to be an ineffective weapon; the public will remain dissatisfied and the crisis stemming from its shaken belief in a government that has allowed the Eytan, Sela', and Pollard affair to continue and grow will remain and might even worsen. There is no sense in wasting time on a fictitious solution such as that decided upon by the Inner Cabinet yesterday. There is no avoiding a decision to appoint a state commission of inquiry equipped with the legal authority and judicial means necessary to get to the whole truth.

Davar writes that the decision to appoint an inquiry committee will help win the faith of Israeli and U.S. public opinion if the inquiry gives answers to the many questions hovering over the affair. The last time the government hoped to settle for an inquiry by two people into a security-related affair was the Shin Bet affair, but that was only the beginning of that affair. Hopefully all the witnesses who will be summoned to the inquiry will tell the whole truth.

Hatsofe says the Israeli Government will have to make difficult and courageous decisions to extinguish the fire damaging the good relations with the United States. Therefore, yesterday's Inner Cabinet decision to establish an inquiry committee was a good one, because it will help Israel calm tempers. This decision, together with the suggestion to hold an inquiry in the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee subcommittee, are the correct path to repairing relations with the United States. However, all the proposed gestures toward the United states should not harm the dignity and independence of the country, because they too are important and vital for Israel's existence in peace and security.

'Al Hamishmar writes that only a legal commission of inquiry can ensure that all the echelons will be properly interrogated, because they would have to answer all the difficult questions that Israeli and Jewish public opinion cannot recall. The result may indeed shake up the top echelon, but a real storm is preferable to a deceptive calm.

Hamodi'a believes that even if the government had decided to appoint a national commission of inquiry without drawing the necessary conclusions about those already known to be involved in the affair, this would not have changed much, because the authority of a commission of inquiry rests upon recommendations made to the government, which can accept or reject the recommendations. The government would have done better to suspend Avi'em Sela'. This step is urgently called for because of the official protest from the Pentagon. Such a suspension should not be construed as foreign intervention in Israeli Government decisions; and even if this had been interpreted as American intervention, it is preferable to allowing the storm in the United States to continue raging. Even leading American Jews agree with the U.S. Administration on this issue, and Israel must not aggravate the situation.

The Jerusalem Post writes that in the end we will hear there is nothing to investigate in the Pollard affair, all is known, all the lessons from this little mishap have been learned, and the nation and its government should be permitted to get on with the really important issues that face it — like, for example, assuring the next $3 billion aid package from the United States.

Kahana Says Government To Release Prisoners

NC120612 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0555 GMT 12 Mar 87

[Text] Extremist Rabbi Me'ir Kahana, a member of the Israeli Knesset, has declared that Israel is preparing to release hundreds of Palestinian and Lebanese prisoners in exchange for the release of foreign hostages and an Israeli pilot detained in Lebanon. Kahana added: I have received reliable information from sympathizers inside the prisons commission that the Red Cross counted the number of prisoners in Nabulus Prison 10 days ago. It seems, Kahana went on to say, that this is a first step toward a major release.

Avraham Tamir Holds Talks With Maltese Leaders

TA111602 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] Foreign Ministry Director General Avraham Tamir has held a 1-day visit to Malta, where he conferred with Prime Minister Karmenu Bonnici Mifsud and with Foreign Minister Alex Trigona Sceberra. This was reported by the Maltese Government spokesman to our correspondent Gid'on Remez after the visit. The spokesman refrained from divulging any details on the content of the talks and in reply to a question by our correspondent merely noted that participating were representatives from Israel and Malta only, without any other sides. Our correspondent notes that Malta is strongly influenced by neighboring Libya and that although the Israeli representation in Malta was closed some years ago for financial reasons, diplomatic relations exist and are conducted via the Israeli Embassy in Rome.

Apparent Hizballah-Amal Raid on SLA Foiled

TA112042 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] There has been an attempt to attack a South Lebanese Army [SLA] outpost south of the town of Bint Jubayl. Our army affairs correspondent reports that a force of approximately 30 fighters made its way toward SLA positions in the area. The force was discovered, fire was directed toward it, and it fled. This was apparently a joint operation by Hizballah and Amal.

IDF Squad, 'Terrorists' Clash; Officer Dead

TA121023 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1011 GMT 12 Mar 87

[Text] The IDF spokesman has announced that an IDF officer has been killed and another soldier injured in a clash between an IDF patrol and a terrorist gang on the border of the security zone, in the eastern sector of southern Lebanon. The bereaved family has been informed.

Close to 0230 this morning an IDF force encountered a terrorist squad trying to infiltrate into the security zone north of Bint Jubayl. In the ensuing exchange of fire, an IDF officer was killed and another soldier was slightly injured.

Two days ago in the same area a South Lebanese Army [SLA] force foiled an attempt by a terrorist squad to infiltrate the security strip to attack SLA positions.

OAU Minisummit Concludes; Statement Issued

Libyan Front Message

NC111730 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1545 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] Cairo, 11 Mar (MENA) — The National Front for the Salvation of Libya has sent a message to Congolese President Denis Sassou-Nguesso, the current OAU chairman, presidents, and staff members of the OAU Bureau attending the African minisummit, which began in Cairo today, appealing to them to urge all African states to condemn Al-Qadhdhafi's criminal practices and terrorist policies in Libya and the world and to halt all forms of cooperation with the facist Libyan regime.

In his message, the front's Secretary General Dr Muhammad Yusuf al-Muqayrif asks those attending to urge African states to sever all ties with Al-Qadhdhafi's regime, which does not represent the Libyan people or express their free will. The message says that Al-Qadhdhafi has extended his blood-smeared, subversive hand beyond the Libyan border, interfered in the domestic affairs of several states, violated their sovereignty, and tried to undermine their territorial integrity.

The message calls on the bureau to urge the African states to adopt principled stands in support of the Libyan people and to support the front's struggle to bring down Al-Qadhdhafi's regime and end its meddling, crimes, and terrorism.

Closed Session Ends

NC111248 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1155 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] Cairo, 11 Mar (MENA) — Leaders of the nine African member-states in the OAU Bureau concluded their closed session at 1300 today.

Congolese President Denis Sassou-Nguesso, who is also president of the current OAU session, reported to the conferees on Africa's current economic and political issues, as well as the efforts made in the past 8 months since the convocation of the 22d African summit in Addis Ababa last July. He also spoke about the OAU's role from now until the 23d African summit, which is scheduled for July in Addis Ababa.

The presidents taking part in the session commented on the Congolese president's report in a debate covering the various points mentioned in the report and the presidents' views with respect to these points.

MENA has learned that President Husni Mubarak, who was among those commenting on the report, explained Egypt's views on these political and economic issues.

The African presidents continued their discussion over a luncheon banquet hosted by President Mubarak at the Presidential Palace in Heliopolis in honor of the African leaders.

OAU Chairman Meets Press

NC111943 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1710 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] Cairo, 11 Mar (MENA) — President Denis Sassou-Nguesso, president of the People's Republic of the Congo and current OAU chairman, has affirmed that the meeting of the Coordination Bureau of the 22d OAU summit was a success. The meeting, which was held in Cairo today, dealt with all the political, economic, and scientific issues discussed during the 22d OAU summit conference.

At a news conference he held this evening after the closing session of the minisummit, President Sassou-Nguesso said during the meeting he gave details of the tasks that have actually been carried out, as opposed to those measures that the OAU summit called for, but that have not been implemented.

In answer to a question on stability and the security situation in Africa, President Sassou-Nguesso said peoples who are the victims of aggression have the right to defend themselves. He added: We are committed to continuing the struggle to liberate the occupied territories in Namibia and South Africa.

He expressed the OAU's solidarity with the Arab peoples in their struggle against Zionism.

With regard to the debts issue, the OAU chairman asserted that he will continue to make efforts and consult with foreign countries in a bid to resolve the African debt crisis. He announced that Africa has requested a special international conference on the foreign debts issue, remarking that accumulated African debts total between $170 and $175 billion. He added that it has been decided to hold a ministerial conference to coordinate stands on the debts.

Asked about the OAU's role with regard to the crisis between Chad and Libya, he said the 22d OAU summit decided to continue its efforts toward reaching a settlement in Chad and to form a committee to settle the dispute over borders peacefully.

Regarding the conflict in the Western Sahara, the Congolese president declared that the OAU will make further efforts, in cooperation with the UN secretary general, to enable a referendum on self-determination to be held there. He expressed the hope that the parties concerned will show wisdom so that this crisis may be resolved by peaceful means.

In answer to a question on the situation in South Africa, President Sassou-Nguesso declared that the situation there is painful and inhuman. He denounced the attitude of that country's fascist government toward the African population. He added: We are encouraging the Africans to continue their struggle. In addition, world public opinion is active in fighting apartheid. The Nonaligned Movement has also decided to support national liberation movements in southern Africa and the African Frontline States to end repression and bolster resistance.

He noted that the international community gives support in this regard and stressed that the countries struggling against the South African regime enjoy the full backing of the entire world.

Answering another question on the conflict between Chad and Libya, he said: I have followed the stand the OAU Coordination Bureau adopted on this issue. We have studied the two resolutions passed on this matter by the 22d OAU conference. We believe it is necessary to further all attempts to bring about national reconciliation in Chad. He noted that efforts should also be made to reactivate the OAU committee set up at the Libreville summit in 1977. He declared that the OAU also appeals to the parties concerned to resort to peaceful means to resolve the conflict, noting that this appeal was included in the statement issued by the OAU Coordination Bureau today.

Meeting Issues Final Statement

NC111854 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1750 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] Cairo, 11 Mar (MENA) — The nine African member-states of the Coordination Bureau of the 22d OAU summit have reaffirmed their full support for the Palestinian people in their struggle for national rights. They called for the siege around the Palestinian camps in Lebanon to be lifted, emphasizing that savage actions against the Palestinians cannot be justified.

The nine African states also called on the international community and humanitarian international organizations to extend assistance to the Palestinian victims. They again expressed Africa's support for an international conference for peace in the Middle East, to be attended by all the parties concerned, including the PLO.

This came in the final statement issued this evening at the conclusion of the Coordination Bureau's meetings, which began this morning under the chairmanship of President Denis Sassou-Nguesso of the People's Republic of the Congo, the current OAU chairman. The meetings were attended by the presidents of Egypt, Sierra Leone, Zaire, Uganda, Djibouti, and Zambia and high-level delegations representing the presidents of Algeria and Mali.

The statement points out that the Congolese president, who is the current OAU chairman, submitted a report on the political and economic activities carried out by the OAU since the 22d summit conference.

The Congolese president briefed the Bureau members on the results of the various exchanges held on behalf of the OAU with the heads of several African and non-African states. He referred in particular to the deteriorating situation in South Africa, Namibia, southern Africa, Chad, and the Western Sahara.

The statement declares that the heads of state and delegation leaders discussed the issues raised in the OAU chairman's report, and made an in-depth study of the current situation in South Africa. This situation, the statement says, is the result of the racist South African regime's continued practice of the racist policy of segregation. It also stems from the regime's stepped-up aggressive campaign against Frontline and neighboring African states. The African leaders also examined the question of cooperation with the United Nations on the implementation of Security Council Resolution 435, passed in 1978, on the independence of Namibia.

The final statement goes on to say that the heads of state and delegations studied the situation in Chad in light of recent developments, which have increased the sufferings of the Chadian people and further destroyed the country's economic and social infrastructure.

The heads of state and delegation leaders also reviewed the situation in the western desert. They paid particular attention to recent developments and the initiatives undertaken by the current OAU chairman and the UN secretary general.

Regarding conditions in South Africa, the heads of state and delegation leaders emphasized that Africa strongly condemns the racist policy of the Pretoria regime. This policy, they said, is one of aggression against the basic principles of human rights and dignity.

The statement stresses that the imposition of comprehensive and mandatory sanctions is the only way of persuading this regime to abandon its policy.

The statement reaffirms Africa's condemnation of the racist regime in Pretoria for imposing a state of emergency in all parts of Africa [as received] and for intensifying its oppressive measures against innocent inhabitants.

The heads of the African states and delegations also expressed their extreme admiration for the people of South Africa for their resolve and defiance of the apartheid regime and urged them to escalate their acts of defiance until the policy of apartheid is finally eliminated.

The heads of the states and delegations affirmed the importance of convening a meeting of a committee of heads of states and governments on South Africa to draw up a new strategy for effective struggle against the Pretoria regime, which is persisting in its policies and actions.

The statement emphasized the UN responsibility to Namibia and denounced the apartheid regime in South Africa for its continued refusal to cooperate in implementing UN Security Council Resolution No 425 of 1978. The statement also reaffirmed previous OAU resolutions, which asserted that Resolution No 425 is the only basis for settling the Namibian issue.

The statement rejected attempts to involve in this issue factors having nothing to do with the essence of Security Council Resolution No 425. It appealed to the international community to pressure the South African apartheid regime to accept the UN plan for Namibia's independence.

The statement strongly denounced the racist regime in South Africa for its flagrant and continuous hostile actions against the Frontline and neighboring states.

The statement also expressed conviction that such hostile actions, which are manifested in the killing of civilians or refugees and the destruction of economic infrastructure and communications, whether through direct military actions or through lawless internal elements, are designed to deter the Frontline and neighboring states from continuing their opposition to apartheid.

The heads of state and delegations expressed their extreme admiration of the Frontline States for their steadfast defiance in an increasingly dangerous situation. They appealed to the world community to give full aid to these states to enable them to stand firm in confronting the aggressive actions of racist South Africa.

The heads of state and delegations expressed their gratitude to the nonaligned heads of state and governments for setting up a fund for Africa to provide aid to the Frontline and other neighboring countries so they can intensify their struggle to eliminate the racist policy of South Africa. They urged the member-states and the world community to contribute generously to this fund.

The heads of state and delegations addressed an appeal to all parties in Chad, urging them to work for a comprehensive national reconciliation. They further appealed to Chad and Libya to settle their dispute through negotiations and dialogue, based on the main principles of the OAU Charter, particularly the principles of nonviolation of borders, respect for states' sovereignty and territorial integrity, and noninterference in domestic affairs.

The heads of state and delegations expressed their gratitude to the current OAU chairman for his initiatives to find a solution to the western desert problem. They urged him to continue his efforts, in cooperation with the UN secretary general, to reach a just and durable political solution to the western desert dispute, in accordance with Resolution 104, which was issued by the 19th session of the conference of OAU heads of state and government, and the resolution issued by the UN General Assembly in this regard.

The heads of state and delegations further expressed their gratitude to PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat for his letter to them regarding the situation in Palestine.

The heads of state and delegations reaffirmed their full support for the Palestinian people in their struggle to attain their national rights. They discussed the Palestinian tragedy in the camps in Lebanon and demanded that the siege of these camps be lifted so that women and children — and all Palestinians — can obtain food. They stressed that the barbaric actions that the Palestinians are enduring are unjustifiable and demanded that the world community and international human organizations extend aid and assistance to the Palestinian victims.

The heads of state and delegations affirmed Africa's approval of the convocation of an international conference for peace in the Middle East in which all parties concerned, including the PLO, would participate.

The heads of state and delegations reviewed the question of Afro-Arab cooperation, reaffirming their confidence in this important solidarity. Noting that 10 years have passed since the Afro-Arab summit in Cairo, in March 1977, the heads of state and delegations requested that all Arab and African states and all Afro-Arab cooperation agencies mobilize to activate Afro-Arab cooperation and overcome the obstacles thwarting its progress and to allow for the convocation of the second Afro-Arab summit without delay.

Regarding the economic situation, the heads of state and delegations expressed regret that the world economic system compels Africa to depend very heavily on others. They stressed Africa's full abidance by the principles of economic development and growth, which are based on self-reliance and support, as noted in the Lagos plan.

The heads of state and delegations discussed the efforts of the OAU member-states to implement the program of priorities for economic revival in Africa and the UN action program for the economic revival and development of Africa.

The heads of state and delegations praised the African states' efforts and reiterated their appeal to the world community to transform into tangible deeds commitments made during the UN General Assembly's special session on the economic crisis in Africa.

The heads of state and delegations also urged the OAU member-states to spare no efforts in mobilizing the internal resources necessary for implementing the program of priorities for economic revival in Africa so that external resources can become a mere supplement to African efforts.

The heads of African states and delegations stressed the need to intensify South-South cooperation in tackling development problems in developing countries. They expressed satisfaction with the current OAU chairman's praiseworthy efforts to convince creditor countries of the need for an international conference on Africa's foreign debts. They reaffirmed the resolution of the conference of OAU heads of states and governments recognizing Africa's responsibility to repay its debts. They stressed the need for an international conference and asked the current OAU chairman to continue exploring the possibility of convening such a meeting.

The conferees also expressed their appreciation for the UN secretary general's initiatives to solve the problem of African debts, emphasizing the need for constant consultations between him and the OAU in this regard.

The heads of African states and delegations expressed their profound appreciation for the president of the People's Republic of the Congo and the current OAU chairman for the great efforts he has made to solve Africa's political and economic problems, urging him to continue these efforts.

They also expressed their great appreciation for and brotherly gratitude to His Excellency President Muhammad Husni Mubarak and the government and people of Egypt for the warm hospitality accorded the participants at the meeting in Cairo.

The final statement was read by OAU Secretary General Ide Oumarou at a news conference, which was also attended by Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif and Public Information Authority Director Dr Mamduh al-Biltaji.

In its noon meeting today the Coordination Bureau formed a committee to draft the statement. The committee had a representative from each of the nine delegations. Egypt was represented by Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs.

Delegations to OAU Minisummit Depart From Cairo

Djibouti President

NC111639 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1600 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] Cairo, 11 Mar (MENA) — Djibouti President Hassan Gouled left Cairo this afternoon. He had attended the meetings of the African minisummit there.

An official farewell ceremony was held in honor of the African guest. He was seen off by Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; Dr Yusuf Wali, deputy prime minister and minister of agriculture and land reclamation; Zaki Badr, minister of interior; Dr Muhammad al-Razzaz, finance minister; Lieutenant General Ibrahim al-'Urabi, chief of staff of the Armed Forces; and members of the Djibouti Embassy in Cairo.

Zambian, Congolese Leaders

NC120808 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0755 GMT 12 Mar 87

[Excerpt] Cairo, 12 Mar (MENA) — Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda left Cairo for home today after attending the African minisummit, which concluded in Cairo yesterday.

Congolese President Denis Sassou-Nguesso and his wife also left Cairo today after taking part in the minisummit. President Husni Mubarak saw the African presidents off at Cairo International Airport, where they were accorded an official farewell ceremony. [passage omitted]

Algerian Delegation

NC120836 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0820 GMT 12 Mar 87

[Text] Cairo, 12 Mar (MENA) — Members of the Algerian delegation to the African minisummit left Cairo for home this morning. The delegation is led by Mohamed Rouighi, Algerian National Liberation Front Central Committee member and minister of hydraulics, environment and forests. The members of the delegation took part in the meetings of the OAU Coordination Bureau in Cairo yesterday.

The Algerian official was seen off at the airport by Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs. The Presidential Guards band played the national anthems of both Algeria and Egypt on the occasion.

Sierra Leonean President

NC120851 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0835 GMT 12 Mar 87

[Excerpt] Cairo, 11 Mar (MENA) — Sierra Leonean President Joseph Momoh left Cairo for home today after leading his country's delegation to the meetings of the African minisummit, which concluded yesterday. He was seen off at Cairo airport by President Husni Mubarak.

The Sierra Leonean guest was accorded an official farewell ceremony. [passage omitted]

Central, East African Summit Postponed to June

JN101739 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1435 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Khartoum, 10 Mar (SUNA) — The Central and East African countries summit conference scheduled to be held in Khartoum this March has been postponed to June at Sudan's request.

During the last summit, which was convened in Rwanda last November, it was decided to hold a summit in Khartoum. The countries that would attend are Sudan, Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Zaire, Rwanda, and Burundi.

ALGERIA

President Bendjedid Welcomes Saudi King Fahd

LD111835 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Sa'ud, custodian of the two holy mosques, arrived in Algiers at 1800 on an official visit to Algeria in response to an invitation from his brother, His Excellency President Chadli Bendjedid, who led those welcoming him at Houari Boumedine International Airport. King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, custodian of the two holy mosques, was given an official welcome.

Fahd Praises Relations

LD112102 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1850 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Excerpt] Algiers, 11 Mar (SPA) — The custodian of the two holy mosques, King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Sa'ud, made a statement on arrival in Algiers in which he said: I am pleased to meet today with my brother His Excellency President Chadli Bendjedid, and to greet through this fraternal encounter the Algerian people to whom history had given the brightest and most immortal records, full of pride of the story of their glorious and long struggle for their freedom and independence.

The custodian of the two holy mosques added: It need not be overemphasized that I should praise here on the proud Algerian soil the links between our two countries; the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria, those links of friendship and kinship, the links of faith, language, blood, and the unanimity of voice in regard of all that serves our fateful issues and the interest of our two fraternal peoples. We are looking for more links of friendship and cohesion through which we will achieve our permanent mutual cooperation and the strengthening of our relations which were at all times a source of good and strength to our two countries, and to the Arab and Islamic nations.

He added, God protect him, that the current circumstances through which our Arab nation is passing demand more encounters and consultations between the leaders of the Islamic and the Arab worlds to face up to the challenges surrounding us. I believe this can be achieved only by a common outlook dictated by the circumstances of the region to realize the unification of efforts to march forward on the path of expected victory, God willing. [passage omitted]

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives SFRY's Mojsov, Delegation

LD111418 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] The brother leader of the revolution received Lazar Mojsov, SFRY Presidency vice president, who was accompanied by Milos Milosavljevic, Federal Executive Council vice president; Lieutenant Colonel General Svetslav Popovic, assistant federal secretary of defense; and Milan Galovic, the Yugoslav ambassador to the Great Jamahiriyah.

The audience was attended by the brother secretary of the General People's Committee and the Secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison.

Delegation Ends Visit, Departs

LD112136 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] The minutes of a bilateral cooperation agreement between the Great Jamahiriyah and the SFRY were signed this evening in Tripoli by the brother secretary of the General People's Committee for the Treasury and by Milos Milosavljevic, vice president of the Federal Executive Council, on behalf of the Yugoslav side. The signing ceremony was attended by the brother secretary of the General People's Committee and Yugoslav Vice President Lazar Mojsov. The minutes of the agreement note the consolidation of bilateral cooperation in all spheres of interest to the Libyan Arab and Yugoslav peoples.

Yugoslav Vice President Lazar Mojsov and the accompanying delegation left Tripoli this evening following a visit to the Great Jamahiriyah, during which he held several talks and meetings within the framework of the relations of fruitful cooperation between the people of the Great Jamahiriyah and the Yugoslav people and for consolidating and developing this cooperation.

Mr Lazar was seen off at Tripoli International Airport by the brother secretary of the General People's Committee, the SFRY ambassador to the Great Jamahiriyah, and embassy staff.

Al-Asad Thanks Al-Qadhdhafi for Congratulations

LD121013 Tripoli JANA in English 0935 GMT 12 Mar 87

[Text] Tripoli, Al Marikh 12, *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — The leader of the revolution has received a telegram of thanks and appreciation from the Syrian president, Mr. Hafiz al-Asad in reply to his congratulations on the Syrian revolution celebrated anniversary. It reads:

I have received with thanks and regards your brotherly congratulations on the 24th anniversary of 8th March revolution. I share in your belief that Arab unity is the most effective treatment for what the Arab nation is suffering from. We in Syria abide by our struggle for (?achieving Arab) unity.

SUDAN

Official on Mediation Between Libya, Chad

JN111455 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1411 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] Khartoum, 11 Mar (SUNA) — Sudan's mediation efforts between Libya and Chad have succeeded in entrenching the need to solve the Chadian issue peacefully and to reject military solutions. This was announced by State Council member 'Ali Hasan Taj al-Din in a press statement here today.

Taj al-Din said Sudan's consultations and meetings with the Libyan delegation under Jadallah 'Azzuz, Libyan foreign liaison secretary, and with Korom Hamet, Chadian secretary of state for foreign affairs, have entrenched this concept.

Taj al-Din added that Sudan has succeeded in holding meetings between the two sides and that efforts will continue to find a positive solution that guarantees secure living for the Chadians. He affirmed Sudan reached this stage in its efforts after holding consultations with officials in Libya, Chad, and Algeria.

SPLA-SPLM Member Denounces Southern Council

EA111054 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in Bari 1120 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Commentary by Major James Wani Igga, the zonal commander of central Equatoria and member of the SPLA-SPLM High Command]

[Text] My commentary today is about the formation of a warming fire by Al-Sadiq to govern southern Sudan, known as the Southern Council. Greetings sons and daughters of my mother. Greetings to you all my people. With due respect to you, I kindly beg you to lend me your ears to listen.

Brothers and sisters, a month or so ago Al-Sadiq, the son of Al-Mahdi, built himself a rough warming fire called the Southern Council. The elders in that warming fire are Mathew Obur, the so-called chairman; and it included others like Peter Cyrillo; William Ajal Deng; Morris Lawiya; and many others. This council was said to be responsible for governing southern Sudan. When other southern politicians realized they were once again being used against their own interests, they refused to commit their signatures to this so-called Southern Council. But before long there were those with long noses, fat noses who thought it was a chance for them to enjoy free fat. That way they decided to throw their mothers into the river.

Now, coming to the real point, let us first of all ask ourselves: who is this man Mathew Obur? We know very well that Mathew Obur is a person only interested in the expansion of his belly. You must recall there was a time when Mathew Obur threw himself to us here in the bush. But because of his greed, he wanted to be made the chairman of the movement [SPLM]. We told him that things were not going to work like that and told him that the SPLA would watch his activities closely, and when satisfied he would then be appointed a minister or something else.

Mathew Obur was not happy with that advice; he became annoyed and decided to return to Khartoum where he has been cleaning Arabs legs until his recent appointment to the Southern Council. Now brothers, if it was not that the Arabs take us to be their dupes how would such a person not representing a party be appointed to such a position. At least if Al-Sadiq had wanted to appoint a southerner to such a position why not select one of those people representing parties? This supports the contention that the Arabs regard us as useless people.

The Arabs regard us as useless people as if we had a long quarrel with them. It is my wish mother, who is also the mother of Kenyi, to declare to you that our town Juba can only be built by southerners. The Arabs rule in a ruthless way as if we have a long quarrel with them. It is my wish to declare to you my mother, who is also the mother of Kenyi, that Juba town can only be maintained by the southerners. The Arabs have destroyed Juba and are teaching their many useless languages which spoil our farms [through mutual incomprehension]. Mother, don't cry because you produced me, alone, unable to resist the Arabs. The Arabs teach their many languages which spoil our farms. The Arabs have destroyed Juba and mother you produced me alone. The Arabs have their many languages which spoil our farms. Mother, why did you produce me alone unable to resist attack by the Arabs. Why did you produce me alone mother, the mother of Kenyi.

Now brothers and sisters is it not true that the Arabs take us as useless people. Otherwise, why would they rule us in such a ruthless way, interested only in teaching us their many languages. If it was only the appointment of Peter Cyrillo, there would be no problems because Cyrillo has been known to us for a long time as a traitor. Cyrillo is responsible for the death of thousands of our people, who die of hunger and disease because they cannot be given food and medicines. Cyrillo begged the Arabs to appoint him governor of Equatoria region for 2 years. What has he achieved for his people? Cyrillo says the SPLA is a bad organization and fighting against the Arabs. Do you see the point in this, brothers and sisters? The SPLA is fighting for equality, fighting to save our people from the talons of the hawk. Is it really fair for Cyrillo to sell our people to the Arabs? What will our future be?

Cyrillo is interested in people who like licking the plates of Arabs like Gajuk Wurnyang Lupaya. He even ventured to mention that he does not want a person like Morris Lawiya to be his deputy? Now what is that? The Southern Council was formed by Al-Sadiq, son of Al-Mahdi, so that it would fight the SPLA, but it is my advice to you that the Mathew Oburs, Cyrillos, and Morris Lawiyas are only wasting their time. They will soon envy us. The time is approaching. Everything has a beginning and an end. Even the torch of a wooden log ends. The SPLA is about to get our soil out from under the feet of the Arabs and free our people. The SPLA is the future of our people and our children. Thank you very much brothers for listening to me. Let us all pray so that peace can be achieved in our land.

TUNISIA

Tripoli Reports Al-Humaydi Arrival, Talks

LD111444 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] At the invitation of the Tunisian Government and in the framework of the consolidation of the bilateral relations between the two fraternal countries, the Great Jamahiriyah and Tunisia, [Revolution Command Council member] Major al-Khuwaylidi al-Humaydi and an accompanying delegation arrived in the Tunisian Republic yesterday evening in the service of the Arab people of the two fraternal countries. An official welcome cere-

mony was held in Major al-Khuwaylidi al-Humaydi's honor on his arrival at Monastir Airport. Brother Mansour Skhiri, director of the president's office and minister of civil service, and Brother Zine Labdine Ben Ali, minister of interior, were at the forefront of those who welcomed him. Brother Mohamed Ben Nasser, governor of Monastir, and officials in charge of security in the province participated in the welcoming ceremony.

Major al-Khuwaylidi al-Humaydi met with Brother Mansour Skhiri and Brother Zine Labedine Ben Ali in Monastir yesterday evening. During this meeting, which lasted for about 2 and 1/2 hours at the residence of Major al-Khuwaylidi al-Humaydi, the bilateral relations between the two fraternal countries and aspects of joint cooperation to serve the interest of the Arab people in the Great Jamahiriyah and Tunisia were discussed.

Brothers Mansour Skhiri and Zine Labedine held a banquet last night in honour of Major al-Khuwaylidi al-Humaydi and his accompanying delegation. The banquet in Monastir was attended by Brother Mohamed Ben Nasser.

Reportedly To Meet Bourguiba

LD121132 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0954 GMT 12 Mar 87

[By Jasim Matar]

[Excerpts] Tunis, 12 Mar (KUNA) — Major al-Khuwaylidi al-Humaydi, member of the Libyan Revolution Command Council and official in charge of security affairs, arrived in Tunis yesterday. This visit will in the opinion of observers here, give a big impetus to the process of improving relations between Tunisia and Libya following an 18-month severance in their diplomatic relations. [passage omitted]

High-level sources told KUNA here today that "Major al-Khuwaylidi al-Humaydi will be meeting President Habib Bourguiba to discuss relations between the two countries as well as the latest positive developments which would prompt more understanding and harmony between the leaderships of both countries."

In the course of answering KUNA's question, the source added: "There would have been no purpose for such a visit if Major Al-Khuwaylidi had not brought with him new Libyan initiatives to restore relations between the two countries. It is thought, however, that this visit will greatly contribute to achieving positive results, which are expected to be announced very soon."

The sources added:"It is expected that Major al-Khuwaylidi will be holding more meetings, in addition to this morning's meeting with the Tunisian president, with senior Tunisian officials." [passage omitted]

WESTERN SAHARA

Information Ministry Issues Communique on Clashes

LD111331 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] The SDAR Information Ministry issued a communique today in which it indicated that Saharan revolutionaries, during continuous operations which took place on 25 February and 6 and 9 March in the region of Farsia, halted the activity of 833 Moroccan soldiers and captured 111 Moroccan soldiers, including 39 NCO's.

The communique added that those killed in the Moroccan forces included Lt Col Rakrafi, and those injured included Col Kaani, commander of the 7th infantry battalion; Lt Col Amara Mohamed commander of the 3d Infantry battalion; and Major Bassali Ahmed.

In addition to this, the ALPS destroyed or captured a significant quantity of different types of military weapons.

CAMEROON

President Biya Plans Visit to PRC 25-31 March

AB112258 Yaounde Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] President Paul Biya is expected to make an official trip to the PRC late this month. A press release from the Presidency of the Republic today announced that the visit, which will hold from the 25th to the 31st of March, is on invitation from Chinese President Li Xiannian.

CHAD

Government Warns Against Libyan 'Traps'

AB112208 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French
1845 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Appeal from the Chadian Government to combatants and civilians of northern Chad; issued in Ndjamena on 11 March]

[Text] Combatants and civilians of northern Chad: This call is being addressed to you. Libyan violence in this part of our country has reached unrivaled heights these past few months. To the reported summary executions, deportations, torture, and imprisonments, another highly barbarous crime has been added. This crime consists of using various commonplace articles as traps. In fact, helicopters have flown over all the paths of the north and scattered them with suitcases, packets of cigarettes, lighters, canned foods, and ammunition boxes filled with poisoned food — all as traps. Libya has been indulging in such acts, worthy of the most vile terrorist, for some time now in the northern part of Chad.

It is imperative that our compatriots, combatants, and civilians traveling in the desert refrain from touching any objects that appear to be harmless but that in fact conceal sure and violent death. Vigilance should henceforth match Libyan barbarism.

Radio Views Libyan Setbacks, FANT Determination

AB111918 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French
1330 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Station commentary]

[Text] The Libyan aggressor forces will always be kept on the run in northern Chad because the Chadian National Armed Forces [FANT], the armed section of the Chadian people, are more determined than ever to deal with the Tripoli horde once and for all.

In fact, the Libyan troops' attempts to construct rear bases in the localities of Zouar, Wour, Fada, and recently (?Tekro) — a small area situated north of Ounianga Kebir — have failed, which has proved that the enemy had no choice but to flee the crushing reaction of our courageous fighters. Henceforth, no locality in northern Chad where the Libyan troops are stationed will be spared from FANT fire. The outcome of the latest fighting announced by the FANT High Command has mentioned 17 Libyans killed and 3 others captured, while their military material losses include two Toyota vehicles mounted with 14.5 mm cannons and a [word indistinct] Toyota vehicle.

Despite the lessons given the Libyan adversaries on the (?front), they have continued their blind bombings of the (?northern localities). On 9 March 1987, the enemy dropped bombs on Fada twice.

According to the FANT High Command communique, whatever may happen, the FANT are determined to liberate their sacred territory. They will track down the Libyan soldiery wherever they may be until final victory.

BENIN

Soviet Official Stops Over, Discusses Cooperation

AB111034 Cotonou Domestic Service in French 1930 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Comrade Ringaudas-Bronislovas Songayla, deputy chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, made a technical stopover in Cotonou. Comrade Songayla, who is also the chairman of the Supreme Soviet Presidium of the Socialist Republic of Lithuania (title as recieved), was welcomed at Cotonou International Airport by a party and state delegation led by Comrade Roger Garba, deputy chairman of the Revolutionary National Assembly Permanent Committee.

Comrade Ringaudas-Bronislovas Songayla told Gerard Mizan the purpose of this technical stopover, before assessing relations between his country and Benin.

[Begin recording] [Songayla] We arrived here from Accra where we attended the celebrations marking the 30th anniversary of Ghana's independence.

[Mizan] How does Your Excellency assess the friendly relations of cooperation between the People's Republic of Benin and the Soviet Union?

[Songayla] On the economic level, bilateral cooperation between the Soviet Union and the People's Republic of Benin is increasing, especially since the recent visit of the comrade president of the Republic to the Soviet Union. I take this opportunity to wish the friendly people of Benin much success in their effort to build a new economy and in their struggle for peace in the world. [end recording]

CAPE VERDE

Diplomatic Ties Established With Seychelles

AB111710 Paris AFP in French 0938 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] Praia, 11 Mar (AFP) — The Governments of Cape Verde and Seychelles have decided to establish diplomatic relations to take effect on 9 March, an official communique issued here on Tuesday announced.

The communique added that both governments have agreed to appoint nonresident ambassadors as their representatives.

According to Cape Verdian authorities, this decision is a confirmation of the two countries' wish to strengthen their ties of friendship.

GAMBIA

Jawara, PPP Win 'Sweeping Victory' in Elections

AB121009 Paris AFP in French 0941 GMT 12 Mar 87

[Text] Banjul, 12 Mar (AFP) — Gambian President Sir Dawda Jawara was triumphantly reelected on 11 March for a fourth term of office as the head of state of this former British colony, while his party won a sweeping victory in the legislative elections. According to the results published this morning on the 32 constituencies, Sir Dawda Jawara won a clearcut victory, with over 60 percent of the votes. His key opponent, Mr Sheriff Mustapha Dibba, leader of the National Convention Party (NCP) received 25 percent of the votes while Mr Assan Musa Camara, leader of the Gambian People's Party (GPP) received less than 15 percent of the votes cast.

In the parliamentary elections, the ruling People's Progressive Party (PPP) won in 28 of the 32 constituencies whose results had been made known by early this morning. Sheriff Dibba's NCP got only four seats, while the GPP, which was founded a year ago, did not succeed in winning a seat.

GHANA

Official Meets With Iranian Delegation

LD112140 Tehran IRNA in English 1750 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] Tehran, March 11, IRNA — Member of Ghana's Command Council Tsikata said in Accra Wednesday that it was Iraq which imposed the war on Iran. Kata said the Iraqi regime took wrong advantage of confusion of the (?position) in Iran and imposed the war on the Islamic Republic.

Kata made the remarks in a meeting with a visiting Iranian delegation led by foreign minister's political advisor Mohammad Hoseyn Asgharnia.

The Ghanaian official was also briefed on the latest victories of Iranian Muslim combatants at the warfronts and on Iraqi air raids on residential areas in Iran as well as Baghdad's use of chemical weapons.

The Iranian delegation, which is in Accra to participate in a national ceremony marking the fifth [as received] anniversary of Ghana's independence, had earlier held talks with Ghanaian President Jerry Rawlings on issues of mutual interest.

SFRY Ambassador Explores Areas of Cooperation

AB110932 Accra Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] The Yugoslav ambassador to Ghana, Lazar Covic, is on a tour of the Volta region to explore areas of cooperation between his country and Ghana. Yesterday, Mr Covic paid a courtesy call on the regional secretary, Mr Richard Seglah, who briefed him on political, economic, and social activities in the region. Mr Seglah said that because of a lack of industries in the region,

there is a constant drift of the youth to seek employment elsewhere. Concerning roads, the regional secretary said efforts are being made to make many farming areas accessible. He disclosed that foreign assistance has been received for the rehabilitation of the Hohoe-Jasikan-Nkwanta-Ote-Damanko Road, as well as the Sogakope-Adidome-Ho Road. Mr Seglah said the region also abounds in jaspar, iron ore, gold, and uranium, which need external assistance for their exploitation.

Mr Covic told the regional secretary that efforts will be made to develop economic and cultural relations between Ghana and Yugoslavia.

Comment on Liberia's Economic, Political Crisis
AB101631 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Malik Eahun commentary]

[Text] The people of Liberia are by no means witnessing one of the worst periods in the history of their country. [sentence as heard] A chain of events beginning with the elections in October 1985, which was followed by the November abortive coup and the subsequent mass arrests and detention of political opponents by the Liberian leader Samuel Doe, has led to a deepening political and economic crisis that threatens the very survival of that society.

Since Doe came to power about 7 years ago, Liberia has struggled with a steadily worsening economy. While critics admit that the former master sergeant inherited a bad economy, they are also quick to point out that little has been done to lift the economy from the depth to which it has sunk. Liberia is basically an agricultural country with about 90 percent of the population living on the land. However, the government spends more than half of its foreign income as well as a substantial part of foreign loans and grants on the importation of staples and drinkables to keep the Executive Mansion and its apparatus functioning. With salaries of workers unpaid for several months, shortages of basic consumer items, the general poverty facing the masses of Liberians, the rigging of 1985 elections and corruption in high places, hundreds of thousands of students, workers, schoolchildren, and traders continue to take to the streets in protest against an unpopular regime. Unfortunately, the opposition parties that contested the elections have failed to take advantage of the situation because of constant clampdown and torture by the regime. This situation suggests that the solution to the problem goes beyond the mere formation of political parties and elections.

Against the background of economic mess, the regime has minted its own dollar coin in the country where the U.S. dollar is the legal tender. It is estimated that about 50 million Liberian dollars in coins have been minted which has resulted in a high inflationary rate and a brisk business in black marketing. Opting for a cheaper way out of the confusion and under U.S. instructions, Samuel Doe registered Liberia as a member of the Zionist zone countries which comprise nations like Cote d'Ivoire, Zaire, Malawi and Cameroon.

For their benefit, the people of Liberia will have to wait a century for the supermarkets, shopping (?arcades) and agricultural products that the Israelis promised Doe during his visit to Jerusalem. In August last year, the IMF sent a team of advisers to Monrovia to assess the state of the economy and to evaluate the new programs that the regime has put into motion. Liberia owes $90 million to the IMF and $1.4 billion to the World Bank. Interests on that debt alone exceeds annual government revenue. By the end of last year, in an attempt to further tighten its control over the Liberian economy, U.S. granted the regime $28.2 million to help pay off some of its debts. Recent Western media reports indicate that the United States has now assumed full responsibility for the Liberian economy by dispatching a team of experts to help managers. Liberia is at the crossroads of a deep economic and political crisis. Mass arrests and torture cannot be a permanent solution to the country's political problems, any more than the minting of dollar coins can solve the economic crisis.

Goals of Radio Ghana External Service Explained
AB091824 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Kwesi Amoako commentary]

[Excerpts] Last Friday, 6 March, the External Service of Radio Ghana came back on the air after a long break. The resumption of external broadcasting on that day gave an added significance to the 30th anniversary celebration of the independence of Ghana. It is also evidence of the gradual recovery that the country has been making in the last few years in many areas of national life.

The External Service of Radio Ghana, when it was conceived and established in the early 1960's by the government of Osagyefo [war title] Dr Kwame Nkrumah, had a definite purpose. It was to quicken the pace of African emancipation from colonialism, white minority settler domination, and apartheid. The service was also to expose the evils of neo-colonialism so evident in the newly independent ex-French colonies in Africa. [passage omitted] It was in this atmosphere that the External Service of Radio Ghana was born in 1961. Elsewhere in the world — in Europe and America — there were many for whom African independence was simply inconceivable. Thus it was necessary to create an African personality that would reflect on people of African descent living in North America, South America, the Caribbean, and Europe to enhance their image among the people with whom they serve their communities.

So the External Service of Radio Ghana put out broadcasts to various parts of the world in English, French, Portuguese, Swahili, Hausa, Arabic, and for a short time Bambara. The External Service closed down its transmissions after some years due to difficulties about technical facilities. But over the last year or two technical facilities available to the Ghana Broadcasting Corporation for both its radio and television operations have increased considerably. So it is now possible to resume the External Service so that the Voice of Ghana that has been silent abroad for such a long time can be heard once again. But what kind of External Service? It is obvious that the original objectives that the External Service of Radio Ghana set itself at its inception have largely

been achieved. Partly through the exhortations of the External Service of Radio Ghana, colonialism has virtually been wiped out of the African Continent except South Africa. The aim of the revived External Service will therefore be to build bridges to our neighbors in the West African geographical region. The service will transmit programs in English and French to West Africa. We, in this region, need to know each other better than is the case now. Our problems are identical. The drought, when it comes, hits us all. The bushfire is not a problem for only one country. Locusts and grasshoppers do not limit their activities to only one part of the region and trade is important for us all. It is important, therefore, to open channels of communication among ourselves and the external broadcasting is one step in that direction. For these Ghanaians who live in other West African countries, broadcasts from the External Service of Radio Ghana will keep them in daily touch with events at home. For citizens of other West African countries, they will have the opportunity to know Ghanaian thinking about African and world issues and to follow events as they happen in Ghana. The aim of the External Service will be to create a spirit of brotherhood and a greater understanding among the people of West Africa.

NIGER

Kountche Receive's France Aurillac 11 March

AB111348 Niamey Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] Major General Seyni Kountche, chairman of the Supreme Military Council and head of state, received in audience French Minister of Cooperation Michel Aurillac this morning. Mr Aurillac had been received earlier by Prime Minister Hamid Algabid.

NIGERIA

Authorities Make Efforts To Curb Unrest

Curfew in Kaduna State

AB111605 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] A curfew has been imposed on Kaduna State following the disturbances which occurred in the state in the last few days. All schools in the state have also been closed down. In a statement in Lagos today, the chief of General Staff, Rear Admiral Augustus Aikhomu, called on the media to exercise restraint in their reports by avoiding exaggeration. He put the casualty figures in the disturbances at 9 dead in Kafanchan and 2 dead in Zaria.

Speaking to State House correspondents earlier, Rear Adm Augustus Aikhomu said that a joint patrol of the Army, the police, and other state security agencies had taken control of the affected areas. He said that what was happening in the state was not a religious crisis, but that some misguided elements were trying to create problems. Rear Adm Aikhomu disclosed that the troublemakers were being arrested and kept behind bars. He said further that appropriate action had been taken to ensure that the disturbances did not spread to other parts of the country.

Also speaking on the same issue, the inspector general of police, Mr Mohammadu Gambo, stated that the crisis was more criminal in nature than religious. This, he said, was because no religion allowed anybody to kill. Mr Gambo appealed to members of the public to assist the government in putting an end to such disturbances.

Today's meeting of the National Council of State, which was presided over by President Ibrahim Babangida, reviewed the progress on the rural development program being undertaken in all the states of the federation.

Kaduna Leaders Appeal for Calm

AB112242 Kaduna Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] The Federal Government has imposed a dusk to dawn curfew on Kaduna State following the riot in parts of the state. All primary and post primary schools, including public and private institutions have also been closed. An official statement today in Lagos appealed to media houses to exercise restraint in their reports about the disturbances.

Also, in a broadcast to the people of the state this afternoon, Governor Abubakar Umar said the police and military personnel have been drafted to strategic locations to maintain order. He explained that the action became necessary following the spate of the recent religious riots in Kaduna Town, Zaria, Kaduna, Katsina, and Kano. He stated that although calm had been restored in Kafanchan, where the disturbances started, some unscrupulous elements had escalated the violence elsewhere.

Lieutenant Colonel Umar described the situation as sad since his appeal in the last 3 days to eschew violence had not been heeded. He said the government had been pushed to the wall and would deal appropriately with the situation. The governor, however, called on religious and traditional rulers to prevail on the people to avoid acts of vandalism. He warned the mass media against publishing figures in reports that could escalate the situation. The governor also warned against rumormongering. Meanwhile, the government has set up a committee to look into the remote and immediate causes of the riot.

Governor Abubakar Umar left for Zaria this afternoon to inspect areas affected by the disturbances. Similarly, the Amir of Zaria, Alhaji Shehu Idriss, has prayed for calm and peace in Zaria and other parts of the country. In a special broadcast, the amir expressed concern about the burning of religious houses and the destruction of property in Zaria by those he described as students of postsecondary schools. The amir urged the persons not to take laws into their hands, but urged them to observe the government's appeal for tolerance.

In his appeal, a renowned Muslim scholar, Cheikh Abubakar Mahmud Gomi, who is just back from Saudi Arabia, has appealed to Muslims and Christians in the state to avoid further violence. He condemned the riot and said all those involved did not act in a sensible manner. Cheikh Gomi said the unrest could not have occurred if both Muslims and Christians are following the teachings of their religions.

The authorities of Kaduna Polytechnic have denied a report that there was a peaceful students' demonstration at the institution yesterday in connection with the disturbances in Kafanchan. In an interview with our staff correspondent in Kaduna today, a spokesman for the Polytechnic described the reports as false. He said at no time was such an action embarked and that the police was not invited. [sentence as heard]

51 Arrested in Kaduna

AB112248 Lagos Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Excerpt] Fifty-one persons have so far been arrested in connection with the disturbances which erupted in Kafanchan last weekend that have now spread to Kaduna, Zaria, Katsina, and Kano. In Kaduna, 13 buildings were burned by the rioters. A joint Army-police patrol team, as well as security agencies, have taken control of the affected areas. A police committee appeals for restraint and gives the assurance that all those arrested would be brought before an appropriate tribunal to be established. [passage omitted]

Preaching Restricted in Benue

AB111728 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] The Benue State police command has banned all open air religious preaching. In a statement, the commissioner of police, (Donald Igbadza), said that all processions, open air crusades and revival activities were banned with immediate effect. He advised all churches and mosques to conduct their worship inside their buildings and stop disturbing the public by worshipping outside. The commissioner said that the police would not hesitate to take appropriate action against any Muslim or Christian violating the order.

Restrictions Also in Plateau

AB111925 Kaduna Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] The Plateau State police command has reminded the public that the ban on open-air religious preaching and processions is still in force. A statement from the command today (?said) that all religious festivities should be restricted to the premises of mosques and churches. It warned that any person or groups of persons, disobeying the order would be prosecuted.

Borno Bans 'Open-Air' Preaching

AB111855 Kaduna Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] All forms of open-air religious preaching and playing of religious cassettes in public places has been banned in Borno State. A statement by the secretary to the government and head of service, Alhaji (Usman Gasmari), said the ban became necessary because some religious sects had engaged in open attacks on others, thereby threatening peace and security. Alhaji (Usman) asked preachers and people wishing to play religious cassettes to obtain permission from the (?preaching) board and the police. He reiterated the government's commitment to the maintenance of law and order and said appropriate authorities had been alerted to ensure strict compliance with the ban.

Government Proposes Lagos Conference on Chad

JN111933 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1722 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] Khartoum, 11 Mar (SUNA) — The Nigerian Government has proposed holding a conference in Lagos on the Chadian problem on 25 March to support the Sudanese initiative for establishing peace in Chad.

This came in a written message received by State Council member 'Ali Hasan Taj al-Din here today when he received the Nigerian ambassador in Khartoum. The ambassador said in a press statement after the meeting that the foreign ministers of the countries neighboring Chad — Sudan, Nigeria, Cameroon, and Niger, in addition to the Libyan Jamahiriyah and Chad — would be invited to the conference.

The ambassador added the message also dealt with promoting relations between Sudan and Nigeria.

Petroleum Minister Cited on OPEC, Oil Situation

AB112255 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Excerpts] The minister of petroleum resources and president of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries, OPEC, Alhaji Rilwanu Lukman, today briefed newsmen on progress being made in the efforts to stabilize the oil market. He devoted much of the briefing to the implementation of decisions taken by the organization last December, particularly on production quota. Energy correspondent Chika Emerewa has the details.

[Begin Emerewa recording] As [words indistinct] December last year, OPEC ministers fixed the production ceiling for the first and second quarters of this year at 15.8 million barrels per day. They also agreed to return to a regime of fixed official selling prices. These measures, according to Alhaji Rilwanu Lukman, are aimed at stabilizing the oil market in the interest of both the producer and consumer nations. He, however, regretted that certain sections of the foreign media have been peddling rumors calculated to wreck the OPEC agreement. Those foreign media had claimed that some OPEC countries were not abiding by their quota and that others were undercutting the OPEC price by giving discounts. This suggests that OPEC's protocol would not hold and causes some customers to hold back purchases of OPEC oil and resort to destocking to meet their needs.

The minister revealed that certain countries were picked up as targets for the attack in order to weaken the resolution of OPEC and its solidarity. Alhaji Rilwanu emphasized that Nigeria and other member-countries of the organization remained determined to uphold the December agreement by adhering strictly to their various quotas and official ceiling prices. [passage omitted]

Alhaji Rilwanu was confident that OPEC customers, particularly those in the industrialized countries, would realize that a more stable oil market was in the overall interest of the world economy. He therefore appealed to the non-OPEC members to place their support for the organization, not to relax their efforts as they stood to benefit from it.

On the [words indistinct] of petroleum subsidy in the country by the federal government, he said that the structural adjustment program was meant to balance the economy and that the petroleum sector should not be isolated. The minister asserted that apart from petroleum, nothing else was being subsidized on the market. He stated that 80 percent of subsidy on petroleum was removed before last year, leaving 20 percent. The introduction of the Second-Tier Foreign Exchange Market, he said, however, implied that a subsidy rate much higher than the one [words indistinct] came into being. Alhaji Rilwanu noted that the government was going to [words indistinct] to the best interest of the economy and the [words indistinct]. [end recording]

Commentaries on UK Visa Office Problem
AB120937 Lagos International Service in English
0830 GMT 12 Mar 87

[From the press review]

[Text] The *National Concord's* editorial is on the recent impasse between the External Affairs Ministry and the British High Commission over the continued use of the premises at 188 Awolowo Ra Road, Ikoyi, as a visa office. After taking a careful appraisal of the deadlock, the paper apportions blame on both sides. While it indicts the External Affairs Ministry and country's intelligence agencies for their seeming negligence and carelessness in allowing a foreign nation to locate part of its operations in a position within viewing distance of Dodan Barracks, [seat of government] the *Concord* also blames the British High Commission for taking the Nigerian Government too much for granted. The paper advises the high commission to operate from their old offices at Eleke Crescent, Victoria Island, in the interim and open their Kaduna office to take the load off Lagos. The *Concord* equally urges the Federal Government to assist the commission in locating an alternative accomodation.

In a related editorial, the *Guardian* advises the Federal Government not to succumb to pressure by the high commission to reopen the visa office. The paper wants the government to acquire the building so as to ensure that it will never again be put to any use that can compromise security at Dodan Barracks or paralyze traffic in that section of Lagos.

Antisubmarine Exercises Held With Brazil
AB090934 Lagos International Service in English
0830 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Text] A joint military exercise between the Nigerian Navy and their Brazilian counterparts has ended in Lagos with a call for more cooperation between the two countries. Speaking to newsmen at the end of the exercise, the fleet commander of the Western Naval Command, Captain Allison Madueke, said that the exercise offered them the opportunity of training Nigerian officers to recognize a submarine trail and identify its whereabouts at different levels. Capt Madueke said that the Nigerian officers were able to identify the submarine trail, its position at about 6 1/2 knots [as received], as well as the whereabouts under water.

The exercise ended the visit of the Brazilian Navy Task Group in the country during which they visited places of interest and exchanged views with their Nigerian counterparts. The task group has since left for Cote d'Ivoire.

Microwave Link Connecting With Niger Completed
AB112300 Lagos Domestic Service in English
2100 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] A microwave link connecting Niger Republic with Nigeria has been completed. This is part of efforts to ensure that African countries communicate directly without going through Europe. The minister of communications, Colonel Tanko Ayuba, announced this yesterday in Argungu, Sokoto State, while commissioning the Argungu-(Alyebo) telephone exchanges. The two exchanges have a capacity for 2,500 lines and are part of the 9 planned for Sokoto State under the third and fourth national development plans.

Cerebrospinal Meningitis Kills 125 in Sokoto
AB062120 Kaduna Domestic Service in English
1700 GMT 6 Mar 87

[Text] One hundred and twenty-five persons have so far died as the result of cerebrospinal meningitis outbreak in Sokoto State.

In disclosing this to newsmen, the commissioner for health, Hajia Fatima Balarabe Ibrahim, said about 840 cases have been so far been reported all over the state. She said 204,000 people have been vaccinated against the disease and the Ministry of Health has requested that about half a million boxes of vaccines from the federal government [words indistinct]. Hajia Fatima Balarabe said health officials have been drafted to all parts of the state to carry out vaccinations, especially in schools.

ANGOLA

Dos Santos: RSA Enjoying 'Complicity' With West

MB120753 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 12 Mar 87

[Excerpt] Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, chairman of the MPLA-Labor Party and president of the People's Republic of Angola, speaking in Luanda, said the southern African issue was currently at an impasse because of intransigent and unjust stances by the Pretoria regime which are the principal cause for the climate of instability and war in the region. Comrade President Jose Eduardo dos Santos, speaking yesterday at the opening session of the second national methodological meeting on party work organization, stressed that in its attitude, the South African Government enjoys the complicity of Western powers who use their veto power in the UN Security Council to block economic sanctions against the apartheid regime. Accordingly, the president of the party and the Republic reiterated the readiness of the MPLA-Labor Party and the Angolan Government to develop diplomatic efforts to facilitate the relaxation of tension in southern Africa.

For 3 days, the meeting's participants will discuss central working plans for the current year and for the period 1987 to 1990, as well as work planning for party provincial and municipal committees and their auxiliaries. [passage omitted]

300 Former FNLA Members Seek Clemency in Uige

MB111013 Dakar PANA in French 0915 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] Uige, 11 Mar (ANGOP/PANA) — Last week, approximately 300 former members of the defunct Angolan National Liberation Front [FNLA] of Holden Roberto surrendered themselves to Angolan authorities in Uige Province, northern Angola, within the framework of the policy of clemency in effect since 1978. According to the Angolan daily *Jornal De Angola*, these compatriots came from Quitexe Municipality in northern Angola and are currently receiving assistance from health and social affairs organizations.

MOZAMBIQUE

Government Forces Reportedly Occupy Luabo

AU111622 Paris AFP in English 1600 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] Lisbon, March 11 (AFP) — Mozambican Government forces on Monday occupied the central city of Luabo, which had become a main stronghold of the Mozambique National Resistance (MNR) rebels, the Portuguese news agency LUSA said Wednesday, quoting Mozambique military sources.

MNR forces had resisted several previous government attempts to retake the city, which the rebels had occupied in July 1985. In taking Luabo, the MNR had destroyed the town's sugar refining complex, the largest in the country.

In another dispatch Wednesday, LUSA said a Portuguese electricity engineer had been killed Tuesday during an ambush by rebels near the northern town of Cuamba, in the Niassa Province.

Prime Minister Machungo Meets USSR's Koshelev

MB111310 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1100 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] Mozambique's Prime Minister Mario Machungo has expressed the will to strengthen relations between Mozambique and the Soviet Union. Mr Machungo was speaking yesterday during a meeting with the deputy chairman of the Soviet State Committee for Foreign Relations and co-chairman of the Mozambique-Soviet Joint Cooperation Commission, P.I. Koshelev. Mr Machungo also said that the visit by Mr Koshelev and his delegation takes place at a time when the two countries are preparing to mark the first decade of the signing of the general treaty of cooperation and friendship between the two countries. The prime minister was accompanied by Finance Minister Adbul Magid Osman, who is also the chairman of the joint commission on the Mozambican side. The Soviet delegation, which is visiting Mozambique since last week, has made several contacts with government officials, including the minister of cooperation, Jacinto Veloso.

Today, Mr Koshelev and Mr Magid Osman will sign an agreement which will rule future stages of cooperation between the two countries.

Economic Accord Signed

MB112017 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1730 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] An accord providing for wider cooperation in the context of the joint Mozambique-USSR commission was signed in Maputo today. The accord provides for USSR involvement in the rehabilitation of the Petromoc [Mozambican National Petroleum Enterprise] refinery, the modernization of [words indstinct] Metalo-Mecanica enterprise's foundry, and the repair of the Beira-Moatize railroad. The accord also cites the possible creation of joint Mozambique-USSR enterprises in certain areas.

The USSR will also provide scholarships for the training of semiskilled ship repair technicians and the training of technicians in the Beira agricultural implement factory.

The accord was signed by P. Koshelev, deputy chairman of the Soviet State Committee for Foreign Relations, and Mozambican Finance Minister Abdul Magid Osman.

GDR'S Kleiber Continues Meetings With Officials

MB112013 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1800 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] The visiting high-level GDR party delegation is continuing its stay in Mozambique by meeting with leading Frelimo Party officials. The Socialist Unity Party of Germany delegation is led by a Politburo member and vice president of the GDR Council of Ministers, Guenther Kleiber.

Mr Kleiber met the Frelimo Party secretary for organization, Eduardo Arao yesterday morning to discuss questions related to party organization. Mr Kleiber met Julio Carrilho, secretary of the Frelimo Party for administration and manpower (?yesterday). He also met with Sergio Vieira, diector of the Frelimo Party school.

The German delegation also visited the June 16 agricultural cooperative which is supervised by the Mozambican Woman Organization.

DPRK Communications Delegation Arrives on Visit

MB120828 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0800 GMT 12 Mar 87

[Text] A DPRK delegation headed by Communications Minister Kim Yong-chae arrived in Maputo yesterday. During their stay in the country, the Korean Government delegation will hold meetings with Mozambican authorities. It is expected that the delegation will be received by President Joaquim Chissano and Prime Minister Mario Machungo today.

Chissano Receives Visiting Nigerian Minister

MB120708 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] President Joaquim Chissano received Nigeria's minister for special duties in Maputo this afternoon. The Nigerian minister, who is in Mozambique on a solidarity mission, handed over a contribution from Nigeria for the strengthening of the Mozambique's defense capacity.

NAMIBIA

Ovambo Leader Agrees to Ethnic Elections

MB111854 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1738 GMT 11 Mar 87

[By Johan van Heerden]

[Text] Windoek March 11 SAPA — Political analysts expect increased tension between South Africa and the SWA/Namibian transitional government to emerge from agreement by the Ovambo administration chairman, Mr Peter Kalangula, to involve the territory's largest population group in second-tier ethnic elections. This latest development in SWA/Namibian politics has also high-lighted a long-standing policy dispute between the South African-led security forces and the South African Department of Foreign Affairs on how the people of Ovambo should be accommodated in the territory's central government.

A spokesman for Mr Kalangula's Christian Democratic Action Party (CDA), Mr Werener Neef, said at the opening of an extraordinary session of the Ovambo Legislative Assembly yesterday the holding of ethnic elections in the region was a last ditch effort by the administrator-general, Mr Louis Pienaar, to draw Mr Kalangula into the SWA/Namibian Consitutional Council.

The offer of elections by Mr Pienaar in return for the CDA's participation in the Constitutional Council was a flawed one, but also "the first serious and cautious step towards conciliation," he said. After protracted negotiations and several failed attempts, the move was the first firm commitment by Mr Kalangula to involve SWA/Namibia's 587,000 Ovambo-speaking people in an internal constitutional process for the territory's 1.2 million people.

Mr Kalangula resigned as president of the Democratic Turnhalle Alliance [DTA] in 1981 over what he described at the time as too much emphasis on ethnicity in DTA politics. Since then he has repeatedly declined invitations for negotiations to join the SWA/Namibian transitional government.

But in meetings between the South African state president, Mr P. W. Botha, and the SWA/Namibian cabinet last year, Mr Pienaar undertook to bring Mr Kalangula into the transitional government. There were several failures, and Mr Botha began to lose patience with the lack of political movement in Ovambo for which he blamed the parties in the transitional government. Mr Botha's displeasure was conveyed in a speech to the SWA/Namibian National Assembly about two weeks ago.

The transitional government recieved all the legislative and executive powers of the administrator-general on June 17, 1985 in terms of the state president's proclamation R101. Those powers included the right to grant permission for ethnic elections, and on that power centres the main problem to be overcome if elections are to be held in Ovambo.

Six of the eight SWA/Namibian cabinet members and 44 of the 60-member National Assembly have expressed strong opposition to the holding of ethnic elections in the territory. "As far as I am concerned, ethnic elections will never be held again," the governmental affairs minister, Mr Dirk Mudge, said. But, said Mr Pienaar, South Africa was prepared to reassume certain legislative and administrative functions now resting with the transitional government in order to facilitate such elections".

If South Africa is prepared to carry out that threat, the SWA/Namibian transitional government, already contending with a credibility problem arising from its non-elected status, is expected to put up a furious fight. Erosion of its powers and public image could even lead to resignations from the government, as stated by the DTA, which has 22 members in the National Assembly.

In his speech at the opening of the Ovambo Legislative Assembly, Mr Neef said if Mr Kalangula had not accepted the election offer, the administrator-general would have had to relinquish his political plans on behalf of the South African Government in Ovambo. All powers of government in the region would have passed into the hand of the security forces operating in the area. It would be the end of political initiatives in the Ovambo region, as the military wanted little or nothing to do with Mr Kalangula except in an administrative function.

On the other side, the South African Department of Foreign Affairs viewed Mr Kalangula as an important key to a government of national conciliation in SWA/Namibia.

Mr Neef said: "Depending on the actions that South Africa and all the other South African institutions in Namibia will take from now on in the interests of conciliation, self-determination and democracy...the administrator-general may have succeeded to lay a new foundation for a whole new attitude toward South Africa (in Ovambo)."

The outcome of elections in Ovambo, if they are held at all, could be surprising for many.

Mr Kalangula has never contested elections before but rose to power through death and resignation of previous administration chairmen. His political support is untested and while there are many imponderables — one question is whether Ovambo voters could be mobilised to the polls on a significant scale against concentrated SWAPO armed activity in the area — Mr Kalangula may find himself facing severe opposition from other parties in the campaign.

SOUTH AFRICA

Commentary Notes U.S. Military Visit to Botswana

MB120715 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 12 Mar 87

[Station commentary: "South Africa and Botswana"]

[Text] The visit of a high-level United States military delegation to Botswana last week has wide implications regarding relations between South Africa and Botswana, particularly as far as security matters are concerned. It is reported that the American visit, the first of its kind since Botswana's independence, was aimed mainly at helping Botswana protect itself against South African cross-border operations.

The head of the Institute of Strategic Studies at the University of Pretoria, Prof Mike Hough, says the visit should be seen within the framework of United States sanctions against South Africa and aid for the Frontline States. Botswana, he says, has asked the United States to assist the Frontline States against South African cross-border operations. The visit has led to the allocation of 10 American Marines to the United States Embassy in Gaborone.

The point is that there would be no need for all this if Botswana ensured that its territory was not being used by the ANC for terrorist attacks against South Africa. The record shows that since 1983, there have been numerous meetings on security matters between South Africans and Botswana Government officials. At these meetings South Africa has provided details of ANC terrorists in Botswana and their intentions. Botswana gave assurances that it would not allow its territory to be used for terrorist attacks against South Africa. The assurances had little effect.

South Africa's standpoint has always been that it believes in cooperation and peaceful coexistence with its neighbors in the interests of political stability and economic development in the subcontinent. At the same time, the safety and well-being of its own people is its top priority. In order to discharge that duty, it would seek out and destroy ANC bases wherever they may exist in the region.

Mozambique, USSR Given Machel Inquiry Report

MB111055 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1053 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] Johannesburg, Mar 11, SAPA — The report of the Margo commission of inquiry into the Machel air crash was handed to Mozambique and the Soviet Union this week, commission chairman, Mr Justice Cecil Margo, said today.

Thirty-five people, eight crew members and 27 passengers, including Mozambique President Samora Machel, were killed when the *Tupolev Tu-134* crashed near the village of Mbuzini in South African territory on October 19 last year.

Mozambique, as the state of registry, and the Soviet Union, as the state of manufacture, were given a copy of the final draft of the commission's report in terms of Annexure 13 to the Chicago convention on international civil aviation.

Mr Justice Margo said they had 60 days in which to submit comments or representations to the commission.

"If the commission receives representations, we will consider and react to them," he said.

Once this procedure had been completed, the report would become final.

The minister of transport, Mr Eli Louw, will decide when it is to be published.

Buthelezi Says Blacks Losing Jobs 'in Droves'

MB111036 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1033 GMT 11 March 87

[Text] Ulundi, March 10, SAPA — The KwaZulu chief minister, Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, said today disinvestment was hurting blacks who were losing their jobs "in droves."

"Black workers who were politically duped into supporting a tactic they barely understood, are now facing the brunt of yet another failed ANC (African National Congress) strategy," Chief Buthelezi said in a statement today.

"Now we all are being faced with the facts of what was obvious to me a long time ago: Disinvestment is hurting black workers. Black workers are losing their jobs. Black workers are losing their homes. It is the families of black workers and who are now starving.

"The very people travelled the world campaigning for disinvestment and sanctions still have their jobs while the victims of disinvestment and sanctions are losing theirs in droves."

He accused leaders such as Dr Allan Boesak, president of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches, of turning their backs on

the "ripples" of disinvestment.

"In the past week I have been amazed at the hypocritical manner in which vociferous proponents of disinvestment have been attempting to disassociate themselves from something which, clearly, is turning sour on them," the Inkhata leader said.

"It is truly sickening to read the statements of people like Dr Allan Boesak and Mr Chris Dlamini (vice-president of Congress of South African Trade Unions) who now appear to be trying to squirm out of their former stances."

Chief Buthelezi, who has persistently opposed economic pressure against South Africa, reiterated his stand, saying:

"I oppose disinvestment and sanctions as vehemently as I oppose the South African Government. I despise apartheid and all that the racist government stands for, but in all conscience I cannot call for tactics and strategies which will further economically enslave my people. "I have been pilloried over many years for opposing sanctions and disinvestment."

Township Residents Reject Government Removal Plan

MB111708 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1623 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] Johannesburg March 11 SAPA — Saving Oukasie would help at least 10,000 people the Transvaal Residents Action Committee (TRAC) said in response to minister of constitutional development and planning, Mr Chris Heunis' plan to move the township. The town borders Brits in the Transvaal.

In a statement to SAPA, TRAC said Mr Heunis' justification for the removal on the basis that "voluntary relocation had been gaining momentum over the years and was still taking place daily," was "highly questionable." According to the organisation, Mr Heunis' statement was untrue. "Movement from the township has slowed down to a trickle. At present approximately two families a month are moving.

"The 10,000 Oukasie residents have made it clear they do not intend to move voluntarily. This was dramatically illustrated on Saturday, November 22 1986, when in a period of 5 hours 2,000 adults signed an affidavit stating they do not want to move from Oukasie."

On the question of Oukasie being too "expensive" to upgrade, TRAC said an independent feasibility study revealed that for R3 million the township could be "significantly upgraded." "The government has refused to pay any regard to this report." TRAC said although they did not have a figure for the total amount spent on Lethlabile, the resettlement area, the provision for water cost "at least R9 million." It is conventional wisdom within town-planning circles that only in very exceptional circumstances is it more expensive to upgrade an existing area than to create a town from scratch."

On the issue of poor health conditions, TRAC said it agreed, but added the health of the residents appeared "to be no worse than many other townships around the country." It also attributed the poor conditions to the "deliberate neglect" on the part of the government.

"Over the years the government has refused to provide the most basic infrastructure. It is clear that the government is attempting to create the impression that its endeavours to remove the residents of Oukasie are legitimate and reasonable. However, it is apparent that the only logic is a racist one. The conservative white residents of Brits want Oukasie moved. In this pre-electoral period, the government appears determined to pander to this ultra-right demand so as to ensure that it retains this very marginal seat. If the rhetoric of Mr Heunis becomes a reality, the government would have succeeded in carrying out another brutal forced removal."

In a statement, the Brits Action Committee (BAC) added its voice to TRAC. The organisation totally rejected Mr Heunis' statement and added Lethlabile had nothing to offer the residents. "It is a further 20 km from town and borders Bophuthatswana. Although the government has promised not to incorporate it into Bophuthatswana the residents are rightfully worried that this promise could be easily broken.

"The people of Oukasie are not going to move. We are here to stay. The people of Oukasie are prepared to contribute substantially towards the upgrading. We demand that the government reprieves Oukasie and commits itself to upgrading it."

Pik Botha Asks United Front in 6 May Elections

MB120504 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2224 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] Bloemfontein March 11 SAPA — The most effective way to combat sanctions was to show a united front so that the U.S. Congress could get it into its head that the white community was an important force in South Africa. Without them there could be no solution to the problems of this region, the minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, said at the opening of the National Party's election campaign for Bloemfontein in the city hall here tonight.

About 900 people heard Mr Botha warn the Progressive Federal Party and the independent candidates that they misjudged the mood of South Africa if they thought that South Africans would sit back and be happy with international action being taken against them. "The PFP and the independent candidates know that none of them can satisfy any demand abroad that can prevent this country getting sanctions imposed against it." "Unless we are prepared to surrender power to the ANC and the Marxist forces within the ANC, the vendetta against us will not stop. It is no good trying to hide this," said Mr Botha.

He was loudly applauded when he said that the people of Houghton felt the same as the Free Staters and were saying to the U.S. Congress "hands off; you are not going to prescribe to us our future."

Mr Botha said that if the people wanted sanctions to be combatted, they should vote in the way that would be seen by the world to be a united action. He questioned the value of a protest vote.

There was nothing that would hold South Africa back except divisions and discord. The PFP and the independents were still "playing politics" when they should be building.

The government was prepared to negotiate with anyone that was prepared to renounce violence. The problems of the country could not be solved if people were allowed to obtain power through violence.

In appealing for a clear answer to be given to the outside world on May 6, Mr Botha said that if people did not give it to the NP they were untrue to South Africa.

In response to a question on the reference in the London *Times* today to NP members, including Mr Botha, who would leave the NP after the election, Mr Botha said he was an independent. His independence was reflected in his decision to belong to the National Party. He did not have to defend what he had done. It was on record and he would stand by it.

Information Bureau Issues 11 March Unrest Report

MB120954 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0951 GMT 12 Mar 87

[Text] Pretoria March 12 SAPA — The Bureau for Information's unrest situation report for the period 0001 to 2400 March 11 follows:

"Four members of Inkatha passed a car, without number plates, in Umlazi (Durban) at 00h10 yesterday morning. They stopped to investigate and while approaching the car, shots were fired at them from within. A hand grenade was also thrown at them. They ran away but one of them was fatally wounded. The police found his body at the scene at 06h45 together with the safety ring of a hand grenade and fifteen AK47 cartridges. The dead man has been indentified as a Mr Mkhize. No arrests have yet been made and the investigation is continuing.

"Other reported unrest-related incidents comprised isolated stone throwing which resulted in no injuries or arrests and minimal damage, according to reports".

Press Comments on Current Issues, Problems

MB120650 [Editorial Report]

THE CITIZEN: CP-HNP Greater Challenge to NP

"Since we have predicted all along that the Conservative Party and the Herstigte Nasionale Party would sign an election pact, we are not surprised that they are on the verge of doing so," says Johannesburg *The Citizen* in English on 11 March in its page 6 editorial. "While the Independents and Progs [PFP members] are looking beyond this election to 1989, the right-wingers believe the present poll is crucial if reform is to be halted." "Although we doubt that the CP-HNP alliance (or merged party) will be able to take over the country in 1989, it poses a greater challenge to the NP than the Independents and PFP, even if they can attract some of the New Nats." The editorial further makes the point that "the midwife of the electoral pact is the AWB — and how can anyone support parties that have been brought together by that fanatical, militaristic outfit?"

THE STAR on Court Order To Stop Paper Seizure

A page 12 editorial in Johannesburg *The Star* in English on 11 March says: "After dramatically suspending normal hearings, the Rand Supreme Court reacted instantly to an urgent appeal by *The Star* yesterday to restrain the police from seizing the newspaper. This action, and a judgment that an advertisement about detainees was legal, may have deeper consequences than protecting freedom of expression, vital as that is." "Now the courts have stopped the security police in their present course. The result goes beyond censorship and beyond politics. Because of the nature of the advertisement, the issue also concerns the fundamental right to oppose detention without trial. The bottom line for all South Africans must be the right to a public hearing in the face of any criminal accusation. If the emergency regulations are going to prevent people defending this right, then we have nothing left to distinguish us from Marxist regimes."

PFP, Independents Deserve Support

A second editorial on the same page says: "It is true the Independents believe the State of Emergency must stay in force for the present, whereas the PFP is more inclined to believe the emergency exacerbates political problems. But the political thrust of the campaigns mounted in both camps is to press for much faster reform. Through diversity of approach, tailored to local electoral conditions, the potential for more effective pressure for reform has been boosted. It now remains for the alliance and the Independents to market their initiatives and convince floundering voters that reform is the only route to a better life in South Africa. They deserve enthusiastic support at the polls."

Independents: Step To Afrikaner-African Reconciliation

"The Independents have certainly stirred a new spirit of anticipation in the land, but the question is whether it is based on anything substantial or, as Prof Hermann Giliomee has suggested, it is just 'wishful thinking and froth,'" says Alister Sparks in the "My View" column on the same page. Arguments being advanced are that the independents are "potential catalysts who could bring about a new coalition government committed to reform" or they are "engaged in a tactical ploy that is part of the succession struggle in the National Party and has no more promising reformist potential than the futile tricameral constitution." Sparks believes both the analysis are correct to some extent. He points out that Independent Denis Worrall may be unclear "about what his real goals are" but, "what matters is that he and the other Independents, the Stellenbosch academics, Dr Wimpie de Klerk [former editor of RAPPORT] and even the Conservatives are all helping to break up the monolithic solidarity of Afrikaner Nationalism, without which there can be no movement towards a solution of our race conflict." This may lead to an end to the "status quo" and create a "new fluidity." "As we have seen with the tricameral Constitution, even as the futile interim experiments fail new forces are unleashed, vain hopes are extinguished and we move a little closer to the ultimate issue that has to be faced — the reconciliation of Afrikaner and African nationalism."

BUSINESS DAY on Destruction of Press Freedom

"The South African Press has, as this newspaper warns its

readers daily, ceased to be free to publish the news," notes a page 6 editorial in Johannesburg *Business Day* in English on 11 March. "The police can and do intervene to censor what South Africans may read." The editorial points out that the advertisement placed by the Detainees Parents Support Committee in *The Star* "urged such threatening acts as observing tomorrow as a day of prayer, fasting, lighting candles, attending meetings and asking church ministers to dedicate their services to detainees. It is to protect us from such dreadful knowledge that government has destroyed Press freedom and taken us down the path of totalitarianism."

CAPE TIMES on Independents' Manifesto

"The release of a joint election manifesto by the three most prominent 'Independent' candidates contesting the May 6 poll is to be welcomed," says a page 6 editorial in Cape Town *Cape Times* in English on 10 March. "A feature of the manifesto which does provoke concern is the proviso that 'emergency powers must be retained to secure stability during the transition period.' This committment is tempered with the important qualification that the courts and proper judicial procedures 'must again come into their own' but could, nevertheless, be interpreted as a partial justification for an inexcusable brand of state repression."

Criticism of Group Areas Enforcement

A second editorial on the same page says: "It is astonishing, and thoroughly depressing to learn that the South African Police, overburdened with an escalating crime rate and extended to the limit with the State of Emergency as well as trying to restore law and order in black residential areas, was forced last year to investigate 923 complaints of alleged offences under the Group Areas Act. Nearly three times a day, the police were compelled to waste their time trying to enforce an apartheid law which should have been scrapped long ago." But, "far worse is the fact that the police were forced to investigate alleged offences under a discredited apartheid law which has to go. The police have quite enough to do without having to enforce apartheid."

SOWETAN on Press Freedom

"It is about time that the Government tempered its rule with a certain amount of tact," says a page 6 editorial in Johannesburg *Sowetan* in English on 11 March. "The circumstances surrounding the attempted seizure of *The Star* yesterday, read like high comedy except for the fact that the issue is a very serious one." "The threatened seizure resulted from the placing of yet another advertisement that has been made controversial by the State. That this advert calls for the release of detainees makes the situation even more serious. How any state which calls itself democratic can deny its citizens the freedom to call for the release of people who have not appeared in court is beyond us."

DIE TRANSVALER on Press, NP

A page 12 editorial in Pretoria *Die Transvaler* in Afrikaans on 10 March says that "with the development of a new independent Afrikaans press industry, a new era in the partnership between newspaper and NP has dawned. Unfortunately, some politicians interpret this development as a gesture of enmity towards the party. That is not the case. This nationally inclined press should be regarded as a more credible partner which wants to help stimulate the debate about matters of actual interest in a responsible way." The paper says that its claim to greater independence "does in no way mean that our enthusiasm for the national matter has weakened, or that we want to hinder the task of the party."

DIE VADERLAND on Constitutional Proposals

A page 12 editorial in Johannesburg *Die Vaderland* in Afrikaans on 10 March says "the alliance candidates' proposal that a judge be appointed to gather constitutional plans for negotiation, initially sounds impressive." But, "what can one single judge contribute to save South Africa? This does not touch on the real problem. No constitutional proposal, however good it may sound theoretically, will be accepted in this country if it is not jointly worked out by all race groups."

BEELD on PFP

A page 8 editorial in Johannesburg *Beeld* in Afrikaans on 11 March says: "The PFP announced that the 'alliance of moderates' should win between 40 to 50 seats in the election. That should make it the official opposition and therefore the 'alternative government.' It is declared that the alternative government will systematically abolish apartheid, will negotiate a true democratic constitution, and will ensure stability and justice for all. It sounds as if the alternative government already regards itself as the government." "Unfortunately South Africa has at the moment too many 'visions' which do not have proper foundations. Until the PFP addresses its vision, it looks as if it will remain an 'alternative government' or an opposition party which can only take part while the government reforms and ensures justice."

SWAZILAND

2 ANC Members Sentenced for Weapons Possession

MB120814 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1600 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] Two ANC members have been given long jail sentences after being convicted of possessing arms in Swaziland. The two were arrested in Mbabane during a police raid in which rifles, limpet mines, and grenades were found. They have been sentenced to 4 years imprisonment and a 1,000 rand fine. In evidence they admitted to belonging to the ANC but said they were only in transit to South Africa where they intended using the weapons.

ZAMBIA

DPRK Offers Security, Medical Assistance

MB120731 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 12 Mar 87

[Text] The Democratic People's Republic of Korea is to revamp security and provide medical personnel to Zambia in the face of military threats from South Africa and an acute shortage of doctors at many of the country's medical institutions. Zambia will soon dispatch a number of security officers from the Ministry of Home Affairs for training in Korea to enable them acquire skills to defend the country better. Doctors in that country are also said to be anxiously waiting for negotiations to be completed between their government and the Zambian authorities, so that they come to assist in [word indistinct] the medical personnel crisis.

This came to light when Secretary of State for Defense and Security Alex Shapi held talks with the visiting vice minister of public security of the Democratic Republic of Korea [as heard], Comrade Yi Sang-pyok, yesterday.

ZIMBABWE

Ian Smith Defends Advice to RSA on Sanctions

MB111857 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1518 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] Harare, March 11, SAPA — Former Rhodesian leader Mr Ian Smith today gave his party's parliamentary caucus his version of the controversial remarks he made in South Africa last month about how Pretoria should combat sanctions, ZIANA, the semi-official news agency, reports.

Mr Lou Ankers, a spokesman for Mr Smith's party, the Conservative Alliance of Zimbabwe (CAZ), said afterwards Mr Smith told the caucus he felt he had done nothing wrong.

Mr Ankers said the caucus was a routine meeting and there were no resignations from the party "or anything else like that."

In Johannesburg recently, Mr Smith told a meeting that, as Rhodesia had done, South Africans should stand together to combat sanctions should they be imposed by the international community.

His remarks were severely criticised in Zimbabwe as giving advice to an enemy, especially as he was a member of the Zimbabwean House of Assembly.

Polish Party Group Meets ZANU-PF Officials

MB120638 Harare Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 12 Mar 87

[Text] A senior ZANU-PF official has said the cold war between Eastern and Western Bloc countries is a ploy by the West for the East to commit resources to nuclear arms instead of development. The official, Comrade Didymus Mutasa, the ruling party secretary for foreign affairs, said this at a meeting with a delegation of the Polish United Workers Party [PZPR] in Harare yesterday. Comrade Mutasa called for an end to the cold war, which he said is a waste of resources.

The leader of the visiting Polish delegation, Comrade Stanislaw Bejger, said the government of Poland has succeeded in improving national unity and reconciliation. Comrade Bejger criticized the Western media for its propaganda in favor of the Solidarity free trade union, which he said is being sponsored by the West to cause confusion in Poland.

The delegation later held discussions with the ZANU-PF secretary for youth, Dr Ernest Kadungure, who is also the minister of state for defense. Comrade Kadungure said Zimbabwe is committed to fight against any form of aggression which could threaten the country's sovereignty.

Meanwhile, the Polish United Workers Party and ZANU-PF are expected to sign a cooperation agreement tomorrow. The accord aimed at promoting understanding between Zimbabwe and Poland will include a student exchange program.